

Board of Trustees Policy Manual

December 17, 2025

POLICY MANUAL

Board of Trustees
William Rainey Harper College

Illinois Community College District No. 512
Counties of Cook, Kane, Lake and McHenry

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Foreword

This Board Policy Manual sets forth the policies adopted by the Board of Trustees of Community College District No. 512. The Manual is to be used by trustees, College personnel, students, and community members for the conduct of relationships and responsibilities relative to the operation of the College.

Board policies shall become effective immediately upon adoption. The Official Minutes of meetings of the Board are considered an extension of this Manual, and subsequent actions of record shall, in case of conflict, take precedence over the policies contained herein. Any laws now existing, or hereafter enacted, amended, or supplemented, where applicable, will take precedence over Board policy.

In interpreting the language within this Manual, the pronouns and relative words used shall be read as if written in the plural, feminine, or neuter, respectively.

Suggestions for changes should be submitted in writing to the office of the President for consideration. Recommendations which require the adoption of a new policy or the revision of existing policy will be brought to the Board by the President.

Various College documents support the Board Policy Manual by providing information and delineating specific procedures, rules and regulations required for the operation of the institution. The College community should be guided by procedural documents, handbooks, and contractual agreements in matters concerning the different areas of operation of Harper College.

Mission Statement

Harper College enriches its diverse communities by providing quality, affordable, and accessible education. Harper College, in collaboration with its partners, inspires the transformation of individual lives, the workforce, and society.

Vision Statement

We will be an innovative and inclusive institution, the community's first choice, and a national leader for student success.

Philosophy Statement

We, at Harper College, believe that our charge is to facilitate active learning and foster the knowledge, critical thinking and life/work skills required for participation in our global society. We work with our community partners to enrich the intellectual, cultural and economic fabric of our district. We believe that excellence in education must occur in an ethical climate of integrity and respect. We hold that the strength of our society is rooted in our diversity and that it is through synergy that we achieve excellence.

Diversity Statement

Harper College aspires to build, strengthen, and maintain a respectful and safe community where inclusivity and the open exchange of ideas are encouraged and supported. Only when our learning and working environments intentionally embrace and embody diverse perspectives can our educational practices move us toward a just society.

It is our personal and shared responsibility to:

- Operate from an individual and collective awareness of the dynamics of social identity and inequality.
- Respect, value, and learn from a wide range of ideas and perspectives.
- Advocate for equity, recognizing that equal treatment may not be sufficient to achieve success for all people.
- Identify and remove unjust barriers that limit our realization of an inclusive community.

We are fully committed to sustaining an environment where individual differences and identities are recognized as strengths. Harper College is dedicated to supporting our diverse campus and fostering student success as a means of achieving equity in our society and the world.

The creation of a fully inclusive community is an ongoing process. This statement and its implementation at Harper College will continue to evolve alongside our diverse and changing community.

Equity Statement

The core values at Harper College include providing equity in learning, teaching, and working environments for all students, faculty, and staff. While equality involves treating everyone the same way regardless of their starting points and needs, equity is based upon the principles of fairness. Equity acknowledges that everyone has a different starting point and individual needs. It means meeting people where they are and providing them with support and opportunities essential to accomplishing their goals.

Our commitment to equity at Harper involves providing support and access to resources for all members of the college community and finding solutions to remedy academic equity gaps for students. Our institution will identify inequities and remove structural barriers faced by underserved populations. We will adopt practices and support services that promote equitable participation in educational programs and the equal opportunity for everyone to achieve their full potential. We will promote a culture of inclusion, work to bring about social justice, and advance sustainable change to support the success of all members of the Harper College community.

Institutional Core Values

*We value **Respect, Integrity, Collaboration** and **Excellence**.*

We guide our work and support our philosophy, mission and vision by these core values.

RESPECT

We demonstrate Respect by interacting with and caring for others in a way that adds dignity to ourselves, our relationships and our organization by:

- valuing and celebrating the uniqueness of individuals and their strengths;
- expressing appreciation for our colleagues' time, efforts and contributions;
- encouraging multiple perspectives.

INTEGRITY

We demonstrate Integrity by supporting an honest and ethical environment by:

- respecting confidentiality and acting in a trustworthy manner;
- being accountable for our actions and adhering to policies and procedures;
- making decisions that are fiscally and socially responsible.

COLLABORATION

We demonstrate Collaboration by working internally and externally toward shared goals to create a more positive outcome by:

- actively listening, responding to others with empathy;
- practicing open and honest communication and sharing information that is essential for success;
- using positive humor to foster a healthy and enjoyable environment.

EXCELLENCE

We demonstrate Excellence by setting and pursuing high standards of professionalism and competency by:

- providing exceptional service to all while demonstrating pride in our work;
- welcoming new challenges and seeking opportunities for growth and development;
- encouraging and empowering each of us to achieve our best.

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01.00.00 [BOARD OF TRUSTEES](#)

01.01.00 LEGAL BASES FOR ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION
OF COLLEGE

The 1964 Illinois Master Plan for Higher Education enabled the establishment of a Class I junior college under Illinois Community College District No. 512 (William Rainey Harper College), serving the counties of Cook, Kane, Lake, and McHenry, and State of Illinois.

The Board of Trustees derives its authority from the Illinois Public Community College Act approved by the 74th Illinois General Assembly on July 15, 1965 and is subsequently amended.

01.01.01 Referendum

Community College District No. 512 was created by a referendum held on March 27, 1965. Its first Board members were elected on May 1, 1965, as provided by law.

The College is governed by a seven-member Board elected by the voters of Community College District No. 512.

01.01.03 Applicable Statutes

Statutory provisions applicable to Community College District No. 512 and all Illinois community college districts are contained primarily in the Public Community College Act, found in Chapter 110, Act 805 of the Illinois Compiled Statutes, 110 ILCS 805/1-1 *et seq.* Various aspects of College governance and operation are also subject to provisions of other state and federal laws.

01.03.00 MEMBERSHIP OF BOARD

01.03.01 Elected Members

The College Board of Trustees shall consist of seven members elected by the voters of District No. 512 and of one non-voting member, elected by the student body, who is enrolled at the College.

01.03.03 Trustee Emeritus

A trustee who leaves the Board of Trustees after serving in that capacity for six or more years may be considered for Trustee Emeritus status upon the request of any member of the Board. Non-voting Trustee Emeritus status will be granted upon a majority approving vote of the Board.

01.05.00 QUALIFICATIONS

Each voting Board member shall, on the date of election, be a citizen of the United States of the age of 18 years or over, and a resident of the State and of Community College District No. 512 for at least one year preceding their election.

The qualifications for the non-voting student representative to the Board shall be as stated in Public Community College Act 3-7.24 (110 ILCS 805/3-7.24).

01.07.00 DUTIES OF THE BOARD

The Board shall serve as the policy-making body for the College, and shall have the duties described in Public Community College Act Sections 3-20 and 3-21 (110 ILCS 850/3-20 and 3-21), and ensuing pertinent sections of the Act, including

- A. To maintain records to substantiate all claims for state apportionment in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Illinois Community College Board and to retain such records for a period of three years.
- B. To cause an audit to be made as of the end of each fiscal year by an accountant licensed to practice public accounting in Illinois and appointed by the Board.
- C. To publish annually, in a newspaper of general circulation in the district, a financial statement developed in accordance with rules and regulations issued by the Illinois Community College Board.
- D. To provide for the revenue necessary to maintain the College.
- E. To designate the treasurer who is to receive the taxes of the district and to notify the collectors in writing accordingly. The Board shall fix the compensation of the treasurer.
- F. To pay orders and bills in accordance with 110 ILCS 805/3-27, and

the regulations of the Illinois Community College Board.

- G. To let all contracts for equipment supplies, materials or work involving an expenditure in excess of \$25,000 to the lowest responsible bidder after due advertisement in accordance with 110 ILCS 805/3-27.1, except contracts specifically exempt by statute from said bidding requirements.
- H. To adopt an annual budget within the first quarter of the fiscal year, to certify the amount of the tax levy on or before the last Tuesday in December each year, and to comply with all other requirements of law respecting the financial management of the District.
- I. To make appointments and approve the salaries all regular employees without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, or unfavorable discharge from military service.
- J. To authorize application to the Illinois Community College Board for the approval of new units of instruction, research or public service and to establish such new units following approval in accordance with the provisions of the Public Community College Act and the rules of the Illinois Community College Board.
- K. To adopt and enforce all necessary rules for the management and governance of the College.
- L. To indemnify and protect Board members and employees against death, bodily injury and property damage claims and suits, including defense thereof, when damages are sought for alleged negligent or wrongful acts while such Board member or employee is acting within the scope of employment or under the direction of the College Board of Trustees.
- M. To provide, on an equal basis, access to the campus by the official representatives of the armed forces of Illinois and the United States if such access is provided to other persons or groups for the purpose of apprising students of educational or occupational opportunities.
- N. To take such action as is currently, or in the future may be, required by the laws of Illinois or of the United States and to refrain from taking such action as is currently, or in the future may be, proscribed by the laws of Illinois or the United States.

01.09.00 POWERS OF THE BOARD

The Board may exercise the powers set forth in 110 ILCS 805/3-31 to 3-43, and all other powers that are not inconsistent with the Public Community College Act and may be requisite or proper for the maintenance, operation and development of William Rainey Harper College.

The Board shall exercise the power to manage and control the College, its properties, facilities, educational program and College-related activities of students and employees. The Board shall exercise the power to assign, transfer and promote administrators, faculty members and all other employees.

The Board shall facilitate compliance with 110 ILCS 805/3B-1 to 3B-6, by specifying the requirements for employment and qualifications of "full-time" faculty members and academic support service personnel.

01.11.00 AUTHORITY OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Trustees have authority as such only when acting as the Board of Trustees legally in session.

01.13.00 AUTHORITY TO CONDUCT BUSINESS

No business shall be conducted by the Board except at a regular meeting or adjourned thereof, or at a duly called special meeting.

01.15.00 STUDENT TRUSTEE

A student trustee serves as a member of the Board of Trustees for a one-year term beginning April/May of each year, as provided by law. The student assumes all the rights and responsibilities of a District-elected Board member with the exception of their non-voting status. The student trustee:

- A. is allowed to make or second motions;
- B. is admitted to all sessions of the Board;
- C. receives all materials which voting Board members receive; and
- D. has an advisory vote.

01.17.00 BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTIONS

Election for members of the Board of Trustees shall be held at the consolidated election held on the Tuesday in April of odd-numbered years as set by State law.

Election of Board members shall conform with pertinent provisions of the Election code, 10 ILCS 5/1-1 *et seq.*, and related provisions of the Public Community College Act at 110 ILCS 805/3-7 and 3-7.1.

01.17.01 Nominations

Nominations for members of the Board shall be made by a petition signed by at least 50 voters, or 10 percent of the voters, whichever is less, residing within the District.

Petitions shall be filed with the Secretary of the Board not more than 78 days nor less than 71 days prior to the election.

01.17.03 Petition Requirements

The nomination papers of each candidate shall include petition signature sheets and a Statement of Candidacy and shall be prepared in the manner required by law. During the filing period, the candidate must also file with the Secretary of the Board the receipt for their filing of a Statement of Economic Interests with the appropriate County Clerk. The Statement of Economic Interests must be filed during the same calendar year as the nomination papers are filed.

01.17.05 Canvassing

Within 21 days after the election, the county clerks as the election authorities shall canvass the results of the election, proclaim the winners, and transmit the abstract of votes to the State Board of Elections.

01.17.07 Organizational Meeting

On or before the 28th day after the election, the chair of the Board shall convene the new Board and conduct the election for chair, vice-chair, and secretary.

01.19.00 TERM OF OFFICE

Members of the Board are elected to six-year terms on the basis set forth in the 110 ILCS 805/3-7.

01.21.00 OFFICERS OF THE BOARD

Officers of the Board shall be a chair and a vice-chair who shall be members of the Board, and a secretary who may be a member of the Board.

01.21.01 Term

Each officer of the Board shall be elected for a term of two years. Election of officers will be conducted during the organizational meeting held in election years. Terms of officers shall commence following election of officers and end upon the next succeeding election of officers.

01.21.03 Duties

Chair

It shall be the duty of the chair of the Board to preside at all meetings and to perform such other duties as are imposed by law or by action of the Board.

Vice-chair

It is the duty of the vice-chair to serve in the absence of the chair of the Board. In the absence of the chair and vice chair, the Board shall appoint a chair pro tempore.

Secretary

The secretary of the Board shall perform the duties usually pertaining to the office and such other duties as are imposed by law or by action of the Board. In the absence of the secretary, the Board chair shall appoint a secretary pro tempore who shall be a member of the Board.

01.23.00 VACANCIES

Whenever a vacancy occurs, the remaining members shall fill the vacancy until the next regular election of Board members. The appointee shall have the same legal qualifications as the predecessor. Should the Board fail so to act within 60 days after the vacancy occurs, the Chair of the Illinois Community College Board shall appoint a trustee to fill such vacancy until the next regular election for Board trustees.

01.25.00 MEETINGS

The provisions of this Section 01.25.00 and its included subsections shall apply to meetings of the Board of Trustees and to any subsidiary committee or subcommittee of the Board which constitutes a “public body” as defined in the Illinois Open Meeting Act.

All meetings shall be open to the public except as provided by law. Public notice of all meetings held by the Board of Trustees shall be provided in accordance with the requirements of the Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/1 *et seq.*.

01.25.01 [Regular Meetings](#)

The regular meetings of the Board shall be held one or more times a month at such times, dates and places as are fixed by the Board for the next calendar year at its organizational meeting in election years, and at the regular May meeting of the Board in non-election years. Public notice of such schedule of regular meetings shall be given by posting same in the principal office of the College and by sending a copy of same to any news medium that has filed a request for such notice. If a change is made in regular meeting dates, at least 10 days' notice of the change must be given by publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the College District.

The agenda for regular meetings must be posted and provided to the media at least 48 hours before the meetings.

01.25.03 Special, Rescheduled and Reconvened Meetings

Public notice must be given at least 48 hours prior to a special meeting, a rescheduled regular meeting, or a reconvened meeting, which notice must include the agenda of the meeting. Public notice of a reconvened meeting need not be given if the original meeting was public and (a) it is to be reconvened within 24 hours, (b) or an announcement of the time and place of the reconvened meeting was made at the original meeting and there is no change in the agenda.

- A. Special meetings of the Board may be called by the chair or by any three members of the Board by giving notice thereof in writing stating the time,

place and purpose of the meeting.

01.25.05 Emergency Meetings

In the event of a bona fide emergency, a meeting may be called without formal notice so long as notice is given as soon as practicable but at least prior to the holding of the meeting, by posting in the principal office of the College and contacting any news medium which has filed requests for notice.

01.25.07 Electronic Attendance at Meetings

- A. A quorum of members must be physically present at the location of an open or closed meeting of the Board of Trustees.
- B. Minutes of all meetings shall specify if a member was physically present or present by means of a video or audio conference. Lack of such a specification shall be deemed to indicate that the member in question was physically present.
- C. Subject to the requirement of a quorum of members being physically present in the meeting location, members who are not physically present may participate in open or closed meetings by means of a video or audio conference as provided in this policy. Such electronic participation may be allowed only if the member is prevented from physically attending by (1) personal illness or disability, (2) employment purposes, (3) business of the public body, (4) a family emergency, or (5) another emergency.
- D. If a member wishes to attend a meeting electronically, the member must notify the Board Secretary before the meeting, unless advance notice is impractical. The Board Liaison is hereby designated as the agent of the Board Secretary for purposes of receiving such notice. The notice may be given in person or in writing, or by phone, facsimile transmission, or e-mail, and shall explain why the member cannot attend, with reference to one of the five categories specified in paragraph C above. The Board allows electronic attendance for qualifying reasons, as a matter of standing policy.

- E. Upon receiving notice of a member's intent to participate electronically, the Board Liaison shall make appropriate arrangements for the Board member to participate electronically, by obtaining contact information and arranging a speaker phone or other suitable device for the meeting room. The equipment shall be such as to enable persons attending the meeting (including those in the audience) to hear the member speak, and shall also allow the member who is attending electronically to hear other Board members and any person who addresses the Board. The audio or video equipment shall be activated at the beginning of the meeting, or at the time requested by the member, so that the member can participate. If there is no quorum physically present at the meeting, the Board shall designate a person to contact the member and notify him/her of that fact.
- F. If the member who is attending electronically would normally chair the meeting, a president pro tempore who is physically present may be appointed.
- G. When a member attends a meeting electronically, all votes shall be by roll call vote. A member who is attending electronically must identify him/herself by name and be recognized by the chair before speaking.
- H. An open or closed meeting may be conducted by audio or video conference, without the physical presence of a quorum of the members, so long as the following conditions are met:
- The Governor or the Director of the Illinois Department of Public Health has issued a disaster declaration related to public health concerns because of a disaster as defined in Section 4 of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act, and the College is covered by the disaster area;
 - The Board chair determines that an in-person meeting is not practical or prudent because of the disaster;

- All members of the Board participating in the meeting shall be verified and can hear one another and can hear all discussion and testimony;
 - For open meetings, members of the public physically present at the College can hear all discussion and testimony and all votes of the members of the body, unless attendance at the College is not feasible due to the disaster, including the issued disaster declaration, in which case the College must make alternative arrangements and provide notice of such alternative arrangements in a manner to allow any interested member of the public access to contemporaneously hear all discussion, testimony, and roll call votes, such as by offering a telephone number or a web-based link;
 - At least one member of the Board, legal counsel, or the College President is physically present at the regular meeting location, unless unfeasible due to the disaster, including the issued disaster declaration;
 - All votes are conducted by roll call, so each member's vote on each issue can be identified and recorded; and
 - Notice of the meeting is provided as required by 5 ILCS 120/7(e)(7).
- I. This policy shall apply to any subsidiary committee, subcommittee or other agency of the Board which is a "public body" under the Illinois Open Meetings Act and shall constitute the Board's "rules" regarding electronic attendance as permitted by 5 ILCS 120/7(c).

01.25.09 E-mail Communications Among Board Members

The Illinois Open Meetings Act defines "meeting" to include any gathering "by...electronic means (such as,

without limitation, electronic mail, electronic chat, and instant messaging), or other means of contemporaneous interactive communication, of a majority of a quorum of the members of a public body held for the purpose of discussing public business". 5 ILCS 120/1.02. Moreover, the use of electronic communications to transmit confidential information is a matter of concern, due to the potential for receipt or interception of the confidential communications by unintended parties.

Accordingly, in the interest of complying with Open Meetings Act requirements and lawfully protecting confidential information pertaining to the College, it shall be the policy of the Board of Trustees to limit e-mail communications to, from and among Board members concerning the business of Harper College and District 512 as set forth below.

A. Permitted Electronic Communications

- An electronic message between only two Board members who do not discuss any confidential information;
- A message sent to all Board members with the designation "No response required";
- A message soliciting a response but directing that the response be made only to the original sender, and not copied to other Board members; and
- Communications for purposes other than discussing public business (such as to confirm the location of a Board retreat, or to consult on the feasibility of a date for a special meeting).

B. Prohibited Electronic Communications

- Three or more Board members discussing public business via e-mail or in an online chat room;
- Messages sent to all Board members to discuss public business and which solicit responses; and
- Discussion of any confidential information.

01.25.11 Closed Meetings

At any meeting for which proper notice has been given, the Board may close all or part of the meeting by a majority vote of a quorum present, for any of the reasons listed below or otherwise permitted by the Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/1 *et seq.*... The specific authorized reason must be stated in the motion, recorded in the minutes, and approved by a roll call vote.

A single vote may be taken to close a series of meetings provided they are scheduled to be held within three months of the vote and all involve the same matter. The following subjects may be discussed in closed meetings:

- A. Collective negotiations matters;
- B. Information regarding the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the College, or of legal counsel, including testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee;
- C. Appointment of a member to fill a vacancy on the Board;
- D. The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the College, including discussion of whether a particular parcel should be acquired;
- E. The setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the College;
- F. The sale or purchase of securities, investments, or investment contracts;
- G. Security procedures and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened, or a reasonably potential danger to the safety of employees, students, staff, the public, or public property;
- H. Student disciplinary cases;
- I. Other matters involving individual students;

J. Litigation, when an action against or on behalf of the College has been filed and is pending in court or an administrative tribunal or when the Board finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded in the minutes of the closed meeting; and

K. Other matters permitted by law.

No final action may be taken in a closed meeting.

All persons entitled to or invited to attend closed meetings, and all persons consulted or directed to prepare materials or render services for such meetings, shall consider all topics, discussions, instructions, and materials pertinent thereto to be confidential, and shall not release to any party information concerning such meetings; provided however, that the information may be released upon authorization of the Board following discussion and a majority vote by a quorum of the voting Board members.

01.25.13 [Minutes of Meetings](#)

Minutes must be kept for all Board meetings whether open or closed, and for all committee meetings. Minutes must record: (a) date, time and place of meeting; (b) members present and absent and how the member appeared (physically or by video or audio conference); (c) a summary of discussion on all matters proposed, deliberated, or decided; and (d) any votes taken.

Minutes of open meetings shall be made available for public inspection within seven days after approval by the Board.

Minutes of closed meetings held within the previous six months shall be reviewed in May and November of each year to determine whether the minutes may be, in whole or in part, made available for public inspection. All meeting minutes shall be maintained as permanent records.

01.25.15 Recording of Closed Meetings

A. A verbatim record shall be kept of all meetings of the Board of Trustees or any subsidiary "public body" (as defined by the Illinois Open Meetings Act) of the College

which are closed to the public. The verbatim record shall be in the form of an audio or video recording. In addition, minutes shall be kept of all closed meetings in the manner required by the Illinois Open Meetings Act. Minutes of closed meetings shall be placed before the Board of Trustees or the subsidiary body, as the case may be, for approval as to form and content as soon as practicable following the closed meeting. The secretary of the Board of Trustees, or their designee, shall maintain the verbatim recordings and minutes of all closed sessions of the Board and all subsidiary public bodies of the College.

- B. At the beginning of each closed meeting, those present shall identify themselves by voice for the audio recording. If the meeting is videotaped, at the beginning of the meeting, those present shall individually appear on camera and identify themselves by voice. The chair of the meeting shall also announce the times the meeting commences and ends at the appropriate points on the recording.
- C. At the first regular Board meeting in May and November, the agenda shall include the following item: "Review of the minutes of all closed meetings that have not yet been released for public review, and determination of which, if any, may then be released." Minutes or recordings shall not be released unless the Board finds that it is no longer necessary to protect the public interest or the privacy of an individual by keeping them confidential. As to any minutes or recordings not released, the Board shall find that the "need for confidentiality still exists" as to those minutes or recordings. The administration shall prepare a recommendation for the Board regarding the release and non-release of the respective recordings and minutes.
- D. At the first regular Board meeting in May and November, the agenda shall include the following item: "Authorization for destruction of verbatim recordings of closed sessions." The administration shall present a list to the Board of Trustees of the dates of closed meetings as to which:
 - A verbatim recording exists;
 - The Board of Trustees has approved the minutes of

the closed meeting as to form, regardless of whether the minutes have been released for public review; and

- More than 18 months have passed since the date of the closed meeting. The Board of Trustees shall consider whether to authorize destruction of the verbatim recordings of those meetings. When ordered by the Board of Trustees, the secretary of the Board shall destroy the recording of that closed meeting in a suitable manner.
- Minutes of closed meetings shall be made available to the public only after the Board determines that it is no longer necessary to keep them confidential in order to protect the public interest or the privacy of an individual, or upon court order.

01.25.17 Quorum

A majority of the full voting membership of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. When a vote is taken on any measure before the Board, a quorum being present, a majority of those voting on the measure shall determine the outcome thereof. If a quorum of members is not physically present at the location of the meeting, the Board must adjourn and reschedule the meeting to a future date.

01.25.19 Recording the Proceedings

Any person may record the proceedings of a public meeting by tape, film, or other means if (a) such recording does not disrupt the meeting, (b) a witness required to testify does not object, and (c) the person recording the proceedings complies with the media access procedures of the Board.

01.25.21 Agenda Format – Order to be Determined by Board Chair

The Board Chair in consultation with the President or designee shall determine the agenda for Board meetings, which may follow the format set out below:

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call

- III. Approval of Agenda
- IV. Presentations
- V. Student Trustee Report
- VI. Faculty Senate President's Report
- VII. President's Report
- VIII. Harper College Employee Comments
- IX. Public Comments
- X. Consent Agenda
- XI. New Business
- XII. Announcements by Chair
- XIII. Other Business
- XIV. Adjournment

Items may be added to the published agenda for a meeting only with approval of a majority vote of the Board members attending, and no new items requiring Board action may be added to the agenda for that meeting.

01.25.23 Parliamentary Authority

Unless in conflict with these rules of procedure, the laws of the State of Illinois or the rules and regulations of the Illinois Community College Board, Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised (12th Edition) shall govern the procedure of all Board meetings.

01.25.25 Faculty Representation

The Board of Trustees recognizes the President of the Faculty Senate or their designee as the official representative of the faculty to attend meetings of the Board. The purpose of the representation is to provide the Board with regular faculty perspective regarding discussion of matters coming before the Board which might have an impact upon the welfare of the faculty.

Recognition of this representation does not supersede the responsibility of the College President to act as chief spokesperson to the Board on behalf of faculty, all other employees, and students. Therefore, concerns expressed by the Faculty Senate President or designated representative to the Board should previously have been presented to the College President.

The Faculty Senate President or designee is expected

to attend all regular meetings of the Board and will be recognized for comments by the Board Chair at the appropriate time on the Board agenda.

01.25.27 Public Comment

Members of the public and College employees who wish to address the Board during the Public Comment portion of the meeting will be asked to sign in and to identify the subject matter of their comments before the meeting. Individuals or groups that do not sign in will not be allowed to address the Board.

Upon being recognized, each speaker will state their name and the topic on which they wish to speak. Each speaker's public comments will be limited to a maximum of three (3) minutes in length. The Board Chair reserves the right to establish reasonable time constraints for public comments and to direct the individual to immediately discontinue any public comments which could violate the personal privacy rights of Harper students, employees, or community members or is otherwise inappropriate or disruptive.

In order to move productively through matters on its agenda, the Board does not engage in discussion or dialogue with speakers during the Public Comment period. Individuals or groups who desire discussion or study of a subject may file such a request in writing to the Board Chair or the President of the College prior to the meeting. The Board will take questions and concerns under advisement and respond as appropriate or direct the administration to follow up as necessary.

01.25.29 Preparation for Meetings

In consultation with the President, the Board may establish procedures for the preparation of documents for Board meetings to ensure that there is adequate time for Board members to review and prepare for the business to be conducted.

01.25.31 Decennial Committee Meetings

Meetings of the Decennial Committee on Local Government Efficiency Illinois Public Act 102-1088, enacted June 10, 2022, requires that at least once every 10 years,

each governmental unit form a committee to study local efficiencies and report recommendations regarding efficiencies and increased accountability to the county board. Membership shall include the elected members of the Board of Trustees, the President and at least two residents of the district who are appointed by the Chair, with the consent of the Board.

01.27.00 COMMITTEES

The chair of the Board shall appoint committees as are deemed necessary by the Board. A committee shall report recommendations to the Board for appropriate action and may be dissolved when its report is complete and accepted by the Board. Any committee of three or more members or any committee supported by the Board may be deemed a public body and shall comply with the notice and other requirements of the Illinois Open Meetings Act.

01.29.00 SPECIFIC REQUESTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Any request by a Board member for information which requires extensive staff research or possible future Board action requires approval of the majority of the Board to initiate administrative action on the request.

01.31.00 [CORE VALUES](#)

All Board Members will strive to adhere to Core Values of the College asset out in the Foreword to this Policy Manual and to structure their behavior to be consistent with these Core Values.

01.32.00 BOARD SELF-EVALUATION

The Board is committed to assessing its own performance as a board in order to identify its strengths and areas where it may improve its functioning.

The goals of self-evaluation are to clarify roles, enhance harmony and understanding among Board members, and to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of Board meetings. The ultimate goal is to improve College District operations and policies for the benefit of the students and employees of William Rainey Harper College and the citizens of the William Rainey Harper College District.

01.33.00 RESOURCE SPECIALISTS TO THE BOARD**Attorney**

The Board shall engage the services of an attorney(s) to act as icounselon legal matters by direction of the Board.

Auditors

The Board will employ a public accounting firm to audit the financialrecords and status of the District as required by law.

01.35.00 SUSPENSION OF POLICY OR PROCEDURE

Any policy or procedure not required by law may be suspended by majority vote of a quorum of the Board, but such suspension shall be in effect only during the meeting at which it was approved.

The President or the President's designee(s) may declare a temporary suspension of specific policies or procedures due to an emergency situation that adversely affects operations, public health, or the well-being and safety of employees and students. Events which may require suspending policies or operations include, but are not limited to:

- Severe weather or natural disaster.
- Spread of a communicable disease.
- Fire or related hazard.
- Immediate threat to the safety of the campus community.
- Damage to or failure of infrastructure, equipment or mechanical systems.

When a decision to suspend policies or operations has been made, information shall be widely shared with the campus community. The suspension of policies or procedures shall be reviewed at least monthly to determine if the temporary suspension can be lifted. When the suspension is lifted the campus community shall be notified.

01.37.00 AMENDMENT OR REPEAL

The Policy Manual of the Board may be amended, repealed or added to upon motion made in writing for that purpose by any member of the Board. Any such motion shall not be voted upon until the next regularly scheduled meeting after it has been formally presented to the Board in writing. The approving vote of a majority of a quorum of the Board shall be required for the adoption of any amendment, alteration, repeal or addition to these policies.

A legal review of the Policy Manual shall be conducted at least every ten years to ensure it is current and in compliance with applicable laws.

01.39.00 POLICY DISSEMINATION

The President shall establish and maintain an orderly plan for preserving and making the policies adopted by the Board of Trustees available to members of the public.

01.41.00 TRUSTEE TRAINING

As required via 110 ILCS 805/3-8.5, each Trustee shall complete a minimum of four hours of professional development leadership training in the first, third, and fifth years of their term on the following subject matters: open meetings law, community college and labor law, freedom of information law, contract law, ethics, sexual violence on campus, financial oversight and accountability, audits, and fiduciary responsibilities of a community college trustee. The Student Trustee shall be exempt from any such training requirements. Training must be provided by an authorized training provider. Compliance with training requirements shall be noted on the College's external website as required. The Board commits to completing additional training via workshops and by attending local, state and national community college conferences and meetings.

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02.00.00 CODE OF ETHICS

Honesty, integrity and caring are essential qualities of an educational institution, and the concern for values and ethics is important to the whole educational experience. Individual students, faculty and staff members, and College boards, committees and affiliated organizations must assume responsibility for these qualities. The Board of Trustees and its employees should exercise their judgment and perform their duties in the best interests of the College at all times, and in a manner that presents an ethical image to the community and avoids even the appearance of impropriety. To this end and to assure that College officers and employees will not use their positions for personal or private gain, the Board of Trustees requires that its actions and the actions of its employees be consistent with College policy and procedures.

Nothing in this policy shall in any way restrict the application of or take precedence over any state statute or common law provision with respect to conflict of interest, malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance in office.

Board members and employees shall adhere to ethical standards, including the following principles:

A. Board Members and Employees

1. No member of the Board of Trustees or employee shall use or permit to be used College equipment, materials, services, or other property for personal convenience, benefit, or profit.
2. No member of the Board of Trustees or employee shall influence or seek to influence or participate in the purchase of products, services, letting of contracts or other transactions of the College when such influence or participation may result in personal gain.
3. No member of the Board of Trustees or employee shall engage in dishonest or demeaning behavior.
4. No member of the Board of Trustees or employee shall, for the purpose of rendering or attempting to render the College's financial statements materially misleading, influence, coerce, manipulate or mislead an auditor retained by the College in the performance of the auditor's work.

B. Board Members

No member of the Board of Trustees shall be interested directly or indirectly in any contract, work or business of the College except as permitted by law.

C. Conflict of Interest for Federally Funded Activities

No employee shall have a financial interest in federally funded project research, training grants, and program projects. Employees include the principal investigator, co-principal investigator, project director, and any other person who is engaged in the design, performance, or reporting of projects funded or proposed for funding by federal sponsors. Also included are the employee's spouse, partners, and dependent children.

Financial interests refer to anything of monetary value, including, but not limited to, salary or other payments for services (e.g., consulting fees or honoraria), equity interests (e.g., stocks, stock options, or other ownership interest), and intellectual property rights (e.g., patents, copyrights, and royalties from such rights).

Employees involved with federally funded projects must complete training upon hire and every four years thereafter.

If actual, potential, or perceived conflicts of interest exist, disclosure is required to the appropriate supervisor and Executive Cabinet member.

Compliance is managed by the Grants Office.

02.03.00 STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTEREST

Unless exempted by law, members of the Board of Trustees and College employees who are subject to the filing requirements of the Illinois Governmental Ethics Act shall file a Statement of Economic Interests with the Cook County Clerk by May 1 of each year.

Any fines or penalties assessed against a member of the Board of Trustees or employee who fails to timely file a required Statement of Economic Interests shall be paid by the non-complying Trustee or employee, and not by the College.

02.05.00 ETHICS/GIFT BAN ORDINANCE

ETHICS ORDINANCE PREAMBLE

WHEREAS, the Illinois General Assembly has enacted the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act (Public Act 93-615, effective November 19, 2003, as amended by Public Act 93-617, effective December 9, 2003), which is a comprehensive revision of State statutes regulating ethical conduct, political activities and the solicitation and acceptance of gifts by State officials and employees; and

WHEREAS, the Act requires all units of local government including community colleges, within six months after the effective date of Public Act 93-615, to adopt ordinances or resolutions regulating the political activities of, and the solicitation and acceptance of gifts by, the officers and employees of such units "in a manner no less restrictive" than the provisions of the Act; and

WHEREAS, it is the clear intention of the Act to require units of local government to implement regulations that are at least as restrictive as those contained in the Act, and to impose penalties for violations of those regulations that are equivalent to those imposed by the Act, notwithstanding that such penalties may exceed the general authority granted to units of local government to penalize ordinance violations; and

WHEREAS, it is the clear intention of the Act to provide units of local government with all authority necessary to implement its requirements on the local level regardless of any general limitations on the power to define and punish ordinance violations that might otherwise be applicable; and

WHEREAS, because the Act provides for the imposition of significant penalties for violations of said local regulations, it is necessary to adopt the required regulations by Ordinance rather than by Resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 512, COUNTIES OF COOK, KANE, LAKE AND McHENRY AND STATE OF ILLINOIS (William Rainey Harper College) AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1: The Code of Ordinances of COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 512, COUNTIES OF COOK, KANE, LAKE AND McHENRY AND STATE OF ILLINOIS (William Rainey Harper College) is hereby amended by the addition of the following provisions:

ARTICLE 1

DEFINITIONS

Section 1-1. For purposes of this ordinance, the following terms shall be given these definitions:

"Campaign for elective office" means any activity in furtherance of an effort to influence the selection, nomination, election, or appointment of any individual to any federal, State, or local public office or office in a political organization, or the selection, nomination, or election of Presidential or Vice-Presidential electors, but does not include activities (i) relating to the support or opposition of any executive, legislative, or administrative action, (ii) relating to collective bargaining, or (iii) that are otherwise in furtherance of the person's official duties.

"Candidate" means a person who has filed nominating papers or petitions for nomination or election to an elected office, or who has been appointed to fill a vacancy in nomination, and who remains eligible for placement on the ballot at a regular election, as defined in section 1-3 of the Election Code (10 ILCS 5/1-3).

"Collective bargaining" has the same meaning as that term is defined in Section 3 of the Illinois Public Labor Relations Act (5 ILCS 315/3).

"Compensated time" means, with respect to an employee, any time worked by or credited to the employee that counts toward any minimum work time requirement imposed as a condition of their employment, but for purposes of this Ordinance, does not include any designated holidays, vacation periods, personal time, compensatory time off or any period when the employee is on a leave of absence. With respect to officers or employees whose hours are not fixed, "compensated time" includes any period of time when the officer is on premises under the control of the employer and any other time when the officer or employee is executing their official duties, regardless of location.

"Compensatory time off" means authorized time off earned by or awarded to an employee to compensate in whole or in part for time worked in excess of the minimum work time required of that employee as a condition of their employment.

"Contribution" has the same meaning as that term is defined in section 9-1.4 of the Election Code (10 ILCS 5/9-1.4).

"Employee" means a person employed by the COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 512, COUNTIES OF COOK, KANE, LAKE AND McHENRY AND STATE OF ILLINOIS (William Rainey Harper College), whether on a full-time or part-time basis or pursuant to a contract, whose duties are subject to the direction and control of an employer with regard to the material details of

how the work is to be performed, but does not include an independent contractor.

"Employer" means the COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 512, COUNTIES OF COOK, KANE, LAKE AND McHENRY AND STATE OF ILLINOIS (William Rainey Harper College).

"Gift" means any gratuity, discount, entertainment, hospitality, loan, forbearance, or other tangible or intangible item having monetary value including, but not limited to, cash, food and drink, and honoraria for speaking engagements related to or attributable to government employment or the official position of an officer or employee.

"Leave of absence" means any period during which an employee does not receive (i) compensation for employment, (ii) service credit towards pension benefits, and (iii) health insurance benefits paid for by the employer.

"Officer" means a person who holds, by election or appointment, an office created by statute or ordinance, regardless of whether the officer is compensated for service in their official capacity.

"Political activity" means any activity in support of or in connection with any campaign for elective office or any political organization, but does not include activities (i) relating to the support or opposition of any executive, legislative, or administrative action, (ii) relating to collective bargaining, or (iii) that are otherwise in furtherance of the person's official duties.

"Political organization" means a party, committee, association, fund, or other organization (whether or not incorporated) that is required to file a statement of organization with the State Board of Elections or a county clerk under Section 9-3 of the Election Code (10 ILCS 5/9-3), but only with regard to those activities that require filing with the State Board of Elections or a county clerk.

"Prohibited political activity" means:

- 1) Preparing for, organizing, or participating in any political meeting, political rally, political demonstration, or other political event.
- 2) Soliciting contributions, including but not limited to the purchase of, selling, distributing, or receiving payment for tickets for any political fundraiser, political meeting, or other political event.
- 3) Soliciting, planning the solicitation of, or preparing any document or report regarding anything of value intended as a campaign contribution.
- 4) Planning, conducting, or participating in a public opinion poll in connection with a campaign for elective office or on behalf of a political

organization for political purposes or for or against any referendum question.

- 5) Surveying or gathering information from potential or actual voters in an election to determine probable vote outcome in connection with a campaign for elective office or on behalf of a political organization for political purposes or for or against any referendum question.
- 6) Assisting at the polls on election day on behalf of any political organization or candidate for elective office or for or against any referendum question.
- 7) Soliciting votes on behalf of a candidate for elective office or a political organization or for or against any referendum question or helping in an effort to get voters to the polls.
- 8) Initiating for circulation, preparing, circulating, reviewing, or filing any petition on behalf of a candidate for elective office or for or against any referendum question.
- 9) Making contributions on behalf of any candidate for elective office in that capacity or in connection with a campaign for elective office.
- 10) Preparing or reviewing responses to candidate questionnaires.
- 11) Distributing, preparing for distribution, or mailing campaign literature, campaign signs, or other campaign material on behalf of any candidate for elective office or for or against any referendum question.
- 12) Campaigning for any elective office or for or against any referendum question.
- 13) Managing or working on a campaign for elective office or for or against any referendum question.
- 14) Serving as a delegate, alternate, or proxy to a political party convention.
- 15) Participating in any recount or challenge to the outcome of any election.

"Prohibited source" means any person or entity who:

- 1) is seeking official action (i) by an officer or (ii) by an employee, or by the officer or another employee directing that employee;
- 2) does business or seeks to do business (i) with the officer or (ii) with an employee, or with the officer or another employee directing that employee;

- 3) conducts activities regulated (i) by the officer or (ii) by an employee, or by the officer or another employee directing that employee; or
- 4) has interests that may be substantially affected by the performance or nonperformance of the official duties of the officer or employee.

ARTICLE 5 – PROHIBITED POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

Section 5-1. Prohibited political activities.

- a) No officer or employee shall intentionally perform any prohibited political activity during any compensated time, as defined herein. No officer or employee shall intentionally use any property or resources of the COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 512, COUNTIES OF COOK, KANE, LAKE AND McHENRY AND STATE OF ILLINOIS (William Rainey Harper College) in connection with any prohibited political activity.
- b) At no time shall any officer or employee intentionally require any other officer or employee to perform any prohibited political activity (i) as part of that officer or employee's duties, (ii) as a condition of employment, or (iii) during any compensated time off (such as holidays, vacation or personal time off).
- c) No officer or employee shall be required at any time to participate in any prohibited political activity in consideration for that officer or employee being awarded additional compensation or any benefit, whether in the form of a salary adjustment, bonus, compensatory time off, continued employment or otherwise, nor shall any officer or employee be awarded additional compensation or any benefit in consideration for their participation in any prohibited political activity.
- d) Nothing in this Section prohibits activities that are permissible for an officer or employee to engage in as part of their official duties, or activities that are undertaken by an officer or employee on a voluntary basis which are not prohibited by this Ordinance.
- e) No person either (i) in a position that is subject to recognized merit principles of public employment or (ii) in a position the salary for which is paid in whole or in part by federal funds and that is subject to the Federal Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration applicable to grant-in-aid programs, shall be denied or deprived of employment or tenure solely because they are a member or an officer of a political committee, of a political party, or of a political organization or club.

ARTICLE 10**GIFT BAN**

Section 10-1. Gift ban. Except as permitted by this Article, no officer or employee, and no spouse of or immediate family member living with any officer or employee (collectively referred to herein as "recipients"), shall intentionally solicit or accept any gift from any prohibited source, as defined herein, or which is otherwise prohibited by law or ordinance. No prohibited source shall intentionally offer or make a gift that violates this Section.

Section 10-2. Exceptions. Section 10-1 is not applicable to the following:

- 1) Opportunities, benefits, and services that are available on the same conditions as for the general public.
- 2) Anything for which the officer or employee, or their spouse or immediate family member, pays the fair market value.
- 3) Any (i) contribution that is lawfully made under the Election Code or (ii) activities associated with a fundraising event in support of a political organization or candidate.
- 4) Educational materials and missions.
- 5) Travel expenses for a meeting to discuss business.
- 6) A gift from a relative, meaning those people related to the individual as father, mother, son, daughter, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, great aunt, great uncle, first cousin, nephew, niece, husband, wife, grandfather, grandmother, grandson, granddaughter, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, stepfather, stepmother, stepson, stepdaughter, stepbrother, stepsister, half-brother, half-sister, and including the father, mother, grandfather, or grandmother of the individual's spouse and the individual's fiancé or fiancée.
- 7) Anything provided by an individual on the basis of a personal friendship unless the recipient has reason to believe that, under the circumstances, the gift was provided because of the official position or employment of the recipient or their spouse or immediate family member and not because of the personal friendship. In determining whether a gift is provided on the basis of personal friendship, the recipient shall consider the circumstances under which the gift was offered, such as: (i) the history of the relationship between the individual giving the gift and the recipient of the gift, including any previous exchange of gifts between those individuals; (ii) whether to the actual knowledge of the recipient the individual who gave the gift personally paid for the gift or sought a tax deduction or business reimbursement for the gift; and (iii) whether to the actual knowledge of the recipient the individual

who gave the gift also at the same time gave the same or similar gifts to other officers or employees, or their spouses or immediate family members.

- 8) Food or refreshments not exceeding \$75 per person in value on a single calendar day; provided that the food or refreshments are (i) consumed on the premises from which they were purchased or prepared or (ii) catered. For the purposes of this Section, "catered" means food or refreshments that are purchased ready to consume which are delivered by any means.
- 9) Food, refreshments, lodging, transportation, and other benefits resulting from outside business or employment activities (or outside activities that are not connected to the official duties of an officer or employee), if the benefits have not been offered or enhanced because of the official position or employment of the officer or employee, and are customarily provided to others in similar circumstances.
- 10) Intra-governmental and inter-governmental gifts. For the purpose of this Act, "intragovernmental gift" means any gift given to an officer or employee from another officer or employee, and "inter-governmental gift" means any gift given to an officer or employee by an officer or employee of another governmental entity.
- 11) Bequests, inheritances, and other transfers at death.
- 12) Any item or items from any one prohibited source during any calendar year having a cumulative total value of less than \$100.

Each of the exceptions listed in this Section is mutually exclusive and independent of every other.

Section 10-3. Disposition of gifts. An officer or employee, their spouse or an immediate family member living with the officer or employee, does not violate this Ordinance if the recipient promptly takes reasonable action to return a gift from a prohibited source to its source or gives the gift or an amount equal to its value to an appropriate charity that is exempt from income taxation under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as now or hereafter amended, renumbered, or succeeded.

ARTICLE 25

PENALTIES

Section 25-1. Penalties.

- (a) A person who intentionally violates any provision of Article 5 of this Ordinance may be punished by a term of incarceration in a penal institution other than a penitentiary for a period of not more than 364

days, and may be fined in an amount not to exceed \$2,500.

- (b) A person who intentionally violates any provision of Article 10 of this Ordinance is subject to a fine in an amount of not less than \$1,001 and not more than \$5,000.
- (c) Any person who intentionally makes a false report alleging a violation of any provision of this Ordinance to the local enforcement authorities, the State's Attorney or any other law enforcement official may be punished by a term of incarceration in a penal institution other than a penitentiary for a period of not more than 364 days, and may be fined in an amount not to exceed \$2,500.
- (d) A violation of Article 5 of this Ordinance shall be prosecuted as a criminal offense by an attorney for the COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 512, COUNTIES OF COOK, KANE, LAKE AND McHENRY AND STATE OF ILLINOIS (William Rainey Harper College) by filing in the circuit court an information, or sworn complaint, charging such offense. The prosecution shall be under and conform to the rules of criminal procedure. Conviction shall require the establishment of the guilt of the defendant beyond a reasonable doubt.

A violation of Article 10 of this Ordinance may be prosecuted as a quasi-criminal offense by an attorney for the COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 512, COUNTIES OF COOK, KANE, LAKE AND

McHENRY AND STATE OF ILLINOIS (William Rainey Harper College) or, if an Ethics Commission has been created, by the Commission through the designated administrative procedure.

- (e) In addition to any other penalty that may be applicable, whether criminal or civil, an officer or employee who intentionally violates any provision of Article 5 or Article 10 of this Ordinance is subject to discipline or discharge.

SECTION 2: This Ordinance shall be in effect upon its passage, approval and publication [if required] as provided by law.

02.07.00 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTING

Harper College is committed to the highest ethical standards and conducting its operations in compliance with federal laws and regulations. To ensure that this standard of performance is achieved and maintained, a mechanism for confidential anonymous reporting of perceived wrongdoing, using an external, independent party, is provided either via telephone or the internet. This Policy encourages

persons to disclose allegations of internal wrongdoing.

Wrongdoing may include, but is not limited to:

- Crimes, or violations of the law or governmental regulations
- Fraud or financial irregularity
- Improper use of College funds, property or assets
- Corruption, bribery or blackmail
- Endangering the health or safety of an individual
- Harming College property
- Abuse of students, staff, patrons, College guests, or visitors
- Other unethical conduct

The College will not tolerate any harassment or victimization of reporters and will take appropriate action to protect reporters, including their anonymity (if name is known), who raise concerns in good faith.

An alleged wrongdoer's name may be disclosed only upon completion of the investigation and if found guilty. If the wrongdoer is found guilty, appropriate legal and/or personnel action will be taken.

The President will designate a senior administrator who will have overall responsibility for the maintenance and operation of this policy. Where the complaint involves the senior administrator with this oversight responsibility or their immediate staff, the reporter may instead submit a report to the President.

The senior administrator will maintain a record of raised concerns and related outcomes. At a minimum, the President will provide the Board with a quarterly update of any complaint received and action taken, although the Board may ask for reports at any time. Should a complaint involve the President, the senior administrator will notify the Chair of the Board immediately upon receipt of the same. Complaints involving a Board member will be brought to the Board's attention by the President upon receipt of the same.

If any substantial changes are made to implementing procedures related to this policy, the Board will be notified.

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03.01.00 EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

A commitment to excellence in higher education for the community it serves is the guiding philosophy of William Rainey Harper College.

The College recognizes the importance of high-quality education and training opportunities, which will result in a meaningful role for the student in a free society. Basic to responsible citizenship is the student's ability to be productive through the acquisition of appropriate skills and to be more readily adaptable in a changing, complex society.

The College recognizes the dignity, importance, and uniqueness of each student as well, and therefore endeavors to provide the necessary opportunities for students to achieve social and personal goals. To this end, the College strives to create an environment conducive to intellectual growth and to offer cultural and social experiences that contribute to the development of an educated individual.

03.01.01 Accreditation

The College will seek and maintain regional accreditation from the [Higher Learning Commission](#) of the North Central Association.

03.03.00 CURRICULUM

The faculty and administration have the responsibility for developing curriculum subject to approval by the Harper Board of Trustees and the Illinois Community College Board (where required). Upon approval, the faculty and administration carry the responsibility for implementation, and for the regular review and evaluation of courses offered.

03.05.00 COLLEGE CATALOG / STUDENT HANDBOOK

A [College Catalog / Student Handbook](#) is published annually which contains the policies, procedures, rules, regulations, student rights and responsibilities, and general information pertaining to the educational program of Harper College.

Any changes in the following policies shall be approved by the Board of Trustees prior to publication of the College Catalog/Student Handbook for the academic year in which the changes are to be effective:

Admission Requirements; Tuition; Refund; Grades; Academic Honors; Standards of Academic Performance; Degree Requirements; Graduation Requirements.

03.07.00 ASSOCIATE DEGREE AND CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS

A. [Associate Degrees](#)

Associate degrees shall be awarded in recognition of successful completion of any degree program offered by the College. These degrees shall include the following:

Associate in Arts (A.A.)
Associate in Science (A.S.)
Associate in General Studies (A.G.S.)
Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.)
Associate in Fine Arts (A.F.A.)
Associate in Engineering Science (A.E.S.)

B. [Certificate Programs](#)

Certificate programs shall be offered in appropriate areas. These programs will vary in length, and upon completion of the prescribed courses, the student will receive a certificate of completion.

03.08.00 HONORARY DEGREES

The Board of Trustees shall award all honorary degrees in the name of William Rainey Harper College. Under Illinois law, "a degree granting institution may award honorary degrees; provided that any such degree be clearly represented to be honorary and that any other tangible object issued or purporting to be in evidence thereof shall state on its face expressly, clearly and conspicuously that the degree is honorary" (110 ILCS 1010/3).

Criteria are as follows:

- Individual who has made a significant, noteworthy contribution to Harper College and/or to the community at large.
- Individual who has demonstrated an enduring commitment of commendable service to Harper College.
- Current faculty, staff, and trustees are not eligible. Faculty, staff, and trustees who have been separated from the College for at least five years are eligible.

Generally, the College will award no more than two honorary degrees in any academic year. As authorized by law the Harper College Board of Trustees has selected to offer the following registered honorary degrees:

- Associate in Arts
- Associate in Science
- Associate in Fine Arts-Music
- Associate in Fine Arts-Art
- Associate in Applied Science
- Associate in Engineering Science
- Associate of General Studies

The specific honorary degree awarded shall be appropriate to the nature of the attainment which is being recognized. The following are areas in which individuals may have made significant contributions:

- Educational Service: recognizing outstanding service that enhances educational opportunities for the area or that gives personal assistance that leads to the success of individuals in higher education.
- Humanitarian Service: recognizing outstanding altruism that enhances the quality of life for others in the area.
- Servant Leadership: recognizing outstanding service that goes “the second mile” beyond the servant’s paid job description in any area of leadership and that benefits others and/or enhances their leadership capabilities.
- Arts and Letters: recognizing outstanding contributions to the arts in any form that enhances the quality of life in the area.
- Entrepreneurial Leadership: recognizing outstanding contributions to business/industry through creative start-ups of new enterprises or through innovative management or business or industry.

03.09.00 GENERAL EDUCATION

Harper College is committed to a program of general education, which acquaints the student with a broad area of knowledge.

The general education philosophy of Harper College is intended to encompass the entire College program, enabling all members of the College community to develop and strengthen constructive attitudes through knowledge and understanding. The goal is to equip students with important insight and knowledge, so that efforts to assume their roles as citizens and productive members of society are set in a perspective of values that will provide a sense of order and stability in their lives.

03.11.00 GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The College requirements for graduation shall conform with units of instruction approved by the Illinois Community College Board and Illinois Board of Higher Education. These requirements shall be published in the [College Catalog/Student Handbook](#).

03.13.00 ACADEMIC CALENDAR

The College shall operate on an academic calendar consisting of a minimum of 150 days of instruction each year, excluding summer session and days allowed for registration, testing, or orientation.

03.15.00 [LIBRARY](#)

The College shall maintain a library that supports academic success by providing access to diverse resources in multiple formats, including e-textbooks and research databases. The library will offer essential services such as research support, information literacy instruction, and interlibrary and technology loans. It will also provide inclusive learning environments through quiet study areas, group rooms, and collaborative spaces.

03.17.00 EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS FOR IN-DISTRICT ORGANIZATIONS

The College may enter into written agreements with in-district businesses, industries or agencies to provide employer-based instruction as part of their training and development programs.

03.19.00 ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Advisory committees shall be established to provide communication between the College and leaders in various professional and career fields. Through this communication, the faculty of Harper College will maintain a constant awareness of the changing career and professional needs of business, industry, and government and thus respond to these needs by providing a relevant educational program.

Advisory committees will be appointed annually by the Board of Trustees and will serve as committees subject to the policies and regulations of the Board.

The term of office of committee members shall be for two years; and members may be reappointed twice for a total of six consecutive years.

The committee for each career program will consist of no less than five members and the College recommends no more than 15 members.

The number of Harper College employees serving on the committee shall not constitute a majority.

The organization, structure, and rules for the conduct of advisory committees are established by each committee with approval of the President or designee.

03.21.00 ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

In furtherance of the educational program of the College, the Board may:

- a) accept federal and state funds for all types of instructional programs;
- b) accept gifts made through the [William Rainey Harper College Educational Foundation](#);
- c) enter into contracts with other entities for educational services; and
- d) enter into such joint agreements to further the educational program as authorized by Sections 3-40 and 3-40.1 of the Public Community College Act, 110 ILCS 805/3-40 and 3-40.1, by the Intergovernmental Cooperation Act, 5 ILCS 220/1 *et seq.*, or by other applicable law.

03.23.00 PROGRAM REVIEW

03.23.01 Purpose

William Rainey Harper College has established a systematic, College-wide process for evaluating and reviewing all instructional programs, student services and support services. The evaluation of these programs is undertaken to provide faculty, administration, and the Board of Trustees with information about how well the program functions in relation to its objectives and the needs of those in the Harper district. This evaluation process reflects the institution's value placed on quality and may provide justification for actions of the following kinds:

- A. Confirmation of the validity of the program and continuation of support for it.
- B. Reconsideration and possible redefinition of the goals, purposes and objectives of the program.
- C. Review and alteration of the content and structure of the program.
- D. Reconsideration of programmatic priorities and allocation of resources.
- E. Redefinition of roles and reassignment of individuals.
- F. Phase-out and/or discontinuation of appropriate programs.

03.23.03 Definitions

An instructional program is defined as a course of study leading to a certificate of completion, an associate degree, or a designed set of learning experiences intended to enhance students' knowledge, skills, and/or values. Student services and academic support services are defined as a grouping of educational experiences and/or functions under a common set of objectives that can be identified as meeting a student need, community need, or an administrative need.

03.23.05 Frequency of Review

Each program will be evaluated at least once every five years using procedures prescribed by the President or designee. Programs with more frequent review mandated by appropriate agencies will be evaluated more often. In addition, the President or designee may require review of any program when deemed necessary. Although formal evaluation may occur once every five years, data will be collected on an ongoing basis to provide a continuous means for monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of programs.

03.25.00 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

In recognition of its role as a learning institution whose mission includes the promotion of creativity, innovation, and teaching excellence, Harper College strongly encourages all members of the Harper College Community to develop intellectual property--works of authorship, inventions and discoveries--that may be subject to protection by law.

The Intellectual Property Policy is intended to balance Harper College's commitment to its values and principles as a teaching/learning institution and its obligations to the state and the community that provide the resources necessary to support the College and its mission.

Harper College employees who create such works on their own time, and without the use of substantial College resources or financial support, own those works. The College shall not claim ownership of intellectual property created by its employees, unless the work involved was created in the course of employment; commissioned by the College; or created, developed, or produced with substantial College resources or financial support. In such instances, the rights of the Harper employee creators and

of the College shall be defined by Agreement prior to the commencement of the project.

03.27.00 COPYRIGHT ACT COMPLIANCE

College employees and students are required to comply with the provisions of the federal Copyright Act of 1976, as amended ("Copyright Law"), 17 U.S.C. §101 *et seq.*, in all of their activities related to study and teaching at the College including, without limitation, the reproduction of copyrighted materials for instructional purposes.

The College shall provide guidelines to assist employees and students in complying with the Copyright Law.

Harper College employees who violate the Copyright Law are in violation of College Policy and assume all responsibility and liability for such violations. Harper College employees who engage in copyright infringement may also be subject to disciplinary action through the College's discipline policy.

03.29.00 EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

In providing educational programs and opportunities, the College will not discriminate against any individual on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender-related identity, disability, unfavorable discharge from military service, or any other legally protected category. It is the intent of the Board of Trustees to comply with all applicable local, state, and federal statutes, regulations and ordinances prohibiting such discrimination.

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05.01.00 ADMISSION

Harper College shall admit students in accordance with all requirements respecting qualifications and preferences set forth in Sections 3-17 and 3-28 of the Public Community College Act, 110 ILCS 805/3-17 and 805/3-28, and Administrative Rules of the Illinois Community College Board.

Information about eligibility for admission, and requirements, procedures, and options available to students enrolled in Limited Enrollment and other programs are published in the [College Catalog/Student Handbook](#).

05.03.00 RESIDENCY STATUS

Students enrolling at Harper College shall be classified as in-district resident, out-of-district resident, out-of-state resident, or out-of-country resident for tuition and fee purposes.

The Registrar's Office and the Admissions Processing Office shall maintain documentation verifying State or district residency of students and are authorized to require such written documents, affidavits, verifications or other evidence as are deemed necessary to determine the classification of the student.

05.05.00 CREDIT TUITION AND FEES

Credit tuition and fees for students may be charged as permitted by Article VI of the Public Community College Act and its implementing ICCB Rules, and as established by action of the Board of Trustees. Other fees may be required depending on the status of the student, the program in which the student is enrolled, and the requirements of the College.

05.05.01 Senior Citizen Tuition

In-district residents who are age 65 or older, are eligible to enroll in credit courses on a tuition-free basis during the three-day period prior to the first day of the class section in which enrollment is desired, provided that the class section has sufficient minimum enrollments at the regular tuition rate to meet the cost to the College of delivering the course.

05.05.03 Tuition for Employer-Based Programs

Students in courses offered as Employer-Based Programs or pursuant to [Business EdVantage](#) (Educational Service Agreements), who are not in-district residents, are eligible to

enroll in these courses at in-district tuition rates, provided they meet all other eligibility requirements for enrollment.

05.05.05 Tuition for Attendance at Other Illinois Public Community Colleges: Joint Agreements and Chargebacks

Eligibility of in-district students to attend another Illinois public community college under a joint agreement referred to as the statewide CAREER Agreement as described below will be determined by the Registrar's Office, which is authorized by the Board to promulgate rules and procedures governing applications and arrangements for such attendance.

Joint Agreements: Students who reside in the Harper College district and who wish to pursue a certificate or degree program offered by another Illinois public community college which is not offered by Harper College, may be eligible to enroll in and attend that program at the in-district resident tuition rates charged by the community college district of attendance, if that college district and the Harper College Board of Trustees have approved the CAREER joint agreement or another such agreement with one another for the provision of such educational services as authorized by Section 3-40 of the Public Community College Act.

Chargebacks: A student who resides in the Harper College district, and who wishes to pursue a certificate or degree program not offered by Harper College but which is offered by another Illinois public community college with which Harper College does not have a joint agreement, may attend such other community college and request that Harper College pay "chargeback" tuition for their attendance. Students approved for chargeback will pay the in-district tuition rate of the receiving institution, and Harper College will reimburse the receiving institution for the balance of its tuition charge for out-of-district residents while the student is enrolled at the receiving institution in a program not offered by Harper.

Out-of-district residents who wish to pursue a certificate or degree program at Harper College which is not available at the community college serving the college district in which they reside should consult with their community college district of residence to determine whether the desired certificate or degree program is part of the CAREER agreement.

05.05.07 Variable Tuition Rates and Fees

The [tuition and fees](#) charged for courses and programs may vary as approved by the Board of Trustees in accordance with Section 6-4 of the Public Community College Act and applicable regulations of the Illinois Community College Board. Programs approved for variable tuition can be found in the [College Catalog/Student Handbook](#).

05.07.00 NON-CREDIT TUITION AND FEES

Tuition and fees for non-credit courses are set on a course-by-course basis and are generally intended to generate income in excess of the direct costs of course delivery.

05.09.00 TUITION REFUNDS

The schedule for [tuition refunds](#) and the procedures by which a student may request a tuition refund shall be published in the [College Catalog/Student Handbook](#). Student tuition appeals are reviewed by the Appeals Committee which is made up of representatives from Records and Registration, Office of Financial Assistance, Business Office, One Stop, and Advising and Counseling. If a student wishes to have their appeal reviewed by someone other than the Appeals Committee, they may consult with the Registrar.

The Provost shall make the final decision on tuition refund requests involving extraordinary circumstances that cannot be resolved via the tuition refund process.

05.09.01 Tuition Adjustments and Re-enrollment Preferences for Students Called to Active Military Service

In accordance with Section 3-26.5 of the Public Community College Act (110 ILCS 805/3-26.5), the College shall allow a currently enrolled student who is called to active military service to complete any unfinished courses at a later date at no additional charge, unless course credit has already been given or the student received a full refund upon withdrawing from the course, in which case the student's record shall reflect that the withdrawal is due to active military service. Such a student shall be given priority over other students in reenrolling in the course or courses. The President or designee is authorized to promulgate rules as may be needed to implement this policy, and any such rules shall be published in the [College Catalog/Student Handbook](#).

05.11.00 ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Students enrolled in credit courses must maintain minimum academic achievement standards. A student who has a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher and a course completion of 67% or higher is considered in good standing. Standards of Academic Performance are also published in the [College Catalog/Student Handbook](#).

[Standards of Academic Performance](#) at Harper College have been established to guide students in pursuing academic success; to maintain an academic environment that clearly defines expectations for progress; to clarify the roles and responsibilities of students, faculty and administrators; and to uphold academic integrity.

05.13.00 ACADEMIC HONESTY

Harper College is committed to the promotion of high ethical standards, which are best attained in an environment in which individuals practice honesty and integrity. As members of the College community, students are expected to refrain from academic dishonesty in all forms including cheating, plagiarism or other improper appropriation of another's work as one's own, and falsifying records to advance one's academic standing, all as further defined in the [College Catalog/Student Handbook](#) which also sets out procedures which will be followed to address and impose consequences for academic dishonesty when it is determined to have occurred.

05.15.00 COLLEGE CREDIT

Students are granted college credit by meeting course objectives for courses offered and conducted by Harper College.

05.15.01 [Proficiency Credit](#)

Students may be permitted to convert proficiencies acquired through varied past educational experience into college credit on the basis of evaluations and standards set by the College in those areas and courses deemed appropriate.

05.15.03 [Transfer Credit](#)

A student who has been officially accepted as a Harper student may apply for and receive college credit for courses taken at an accredited postsecondary institution, and which meet the Harper College course objectives, for up to three-quarters of the credit hours required for completion of the

student's degree, or up to one-half of the credit hours required to complete a certificate program. Guidelines for acceptance of transfer credit are published in the [College Catalog/Student Handbook](#). Exceptions to this policy shall be determined by the President or designee.

05.17.00 EVALUATION OF STUDENT ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

The College shall maintain a system of evaluating and recording student performance in courses. [Grading and evaluation standards](#), and procedures regarding the auditing or repeating of courses and attendance requirements are published in the [College Catalog/Student Handbook](#).

05.19.00 STUDENT RECORDS POLICY

The federal [Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974](#) ("FERPA") governs the confidentiality of education records and affords certain rights to eligible students with regard to their education records. The policies, procedures, and notices required by FERPA are set forth in the [College Catalog/Student Handbook](#).

05.21.00 STUDENT SERVICE AWARDS

Student Service Awards are provided for outstanding contributions in the area of student activities. Criteria and eligibility for these awards are published in the [College Catalog/Student Handbook](#). Students eligible for these awards are recommended by the President or designee and approved by the Board of Trustees.

05.23.00 HONORS STUDENT MERIT AWARDS

Honors Student Merit Awards are provided for outstanding contributions within the framework of the William Rainey Harper College Honors Program. Criteria and eligibility for these awards are available through the Honors Program. Students eligible for these awards are recommended by the Honors Program Coordinator(s) to the Provost and President and approved by the Board of Trustees.

05.25.00 STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

The College shall establish a [Student Code of Conduct](#) and disciplinary procedures for addressing violations of the Code. Details of the procedures shall be delineated in the [College Catalog/Student Handbook](#).

05.27.00 ACADEMIC AND NON-ACADEMIC COMPLAINTS

The College shall establish procedures for addressing academic and non-academic student complaints. The procedures shall be published in the [College Catalog/Student Handbook](#).

05.29.00 STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

The College shall maintain student support services, which may include orientation, assessment, educational planning, mental health counseling and referral, career counseling, and special services for specific populations including reasonable accommodations and/or support services for students with disabilities in accord with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1974 and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

05.29.01 Assessment

The College shall assess the abilities of students in reading, writing and mathematics to assist with course placement in an effort to assess competencies for student success. Details of the mandatory assessment and placement policy are available in the Testing Center or the College website.

05.31.00 [STUDENT ACTIVITIES PROGRAM](#)

The College shall establish a student government, student publications, social activities, athletics, clubs, cultural and fine arts programs, forensics, and other extracurricular activities. These programs are subject to financial policies and procedures of the College and to budget approval by the Board of Trustees.

The student activities program is described in the [College Catalog/Student Handbook](#).

05.33.00 HEALTH SERVICES

The College shall provide the opportunity for on-campus health services for the students, staff and faculty. Services provided by the College through its [medical services provider](#) include on-campus medical care for emergencies and minor illnesses as well as support for academic programs and clinical activities. The College coordinates campus wellness activities, including on-going health related programs and a College-wide drug education program and ensures compliance with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989, the Drug Free Workplace Act of 1988 and the Bloodborne Pathogens Standard.

05.35.00 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The College shall provide a financial assistance program as further described in the College Catalog/Student Handbook. This program may include loans, grants, Veteran educational benefits, scholarships, college work opportunities, and such other assistance as may be available.

05.37.00 OTHER SERVICES

The College may, with the approval of the Board of Trustees, offer other services to benefit or support students in their pursuit of educational advancement at Harper, as further described in the [College Catalog/Student Handbook](#).

05.39.00 COLLEGE COLORS AND MASCOT

The official College colors shall be blue and silver (shade of gray) and the official mascot shall be the [hawk](#).

05.41.00 ACCOMMODATIONS FOR RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES

It is the policy of Harper College to reasonably accommodate individual students' religious observances in accordance with the University Religious Observances Act (110 ILCS 110/0.01 *et seq.*), in regard to admissions, class attendance, and the scheduling of examinations and work requirements. Students faced with schedule conflicts related to religious observance should make prior arrangements with the instructor five school days* in advance of the examination or other activity involved. A student who believes that they have been unreasonably denied an educational benefit due to their religious beliefs or practices may appeal the decision in accordance with the College's Student Academic and Non-Academic Complaint Procedures.

* School days are defined as those weekdays (Monday through Friday) when classes are in session.

05.43.00 STUDENT OPTIONAL DISCLOSURE OF PRIVATE MENTAL HEALTH INFORMATION

In compliance with the Student Optional Disclosure of Private Mental Health Act ("Act"), 110 ILCS 74/1 *et seq.*, the College shall establish procedures and an accompanying form providing students with the opportunity to voluntarily authorize, in writing, the disclosure of specified private mental health information to a designated person 18 or older. This disclosure will occur only under the conditions and circumstances outlined in the Act, ensuring compliance with all applicable legal and ethical standards. Consistent with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1232g and its regulations at 34 CFR § 99.36, the College may disclose a student's private information to persons who need to know that information in the event of or to avert a health or safety emergency, even if those persons have not been designated by the student on his or her Student Optional Disclosure of Private Mental Health Information Form. Students have the right to withdraw or revoke their Mental Health Emergency Contact authorization.

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07.01.00 FINANCE

07.01.01 Financial Plan of Operation

The Board of Trustees shall exercise its statutory authority to provide for the revenue necessary to maintain the College, consistent with Section 3-23 of the Illinois Public Community College Act, 110 ILCS 805/3-23. The Board of Trustees may make a determination within the operating budget for the distribution of State apportionment and certain other revenues among the operating funds.

For the purpose of carrying out the entire educational program of this district, the Board in accordance with Administrative Rules of the Illinois Community College Board, as detailed in the ICCB Fiscal Management Manual, has established the following funds for operation:

A. Education Fund

The Education Fund is used to account for the revenues and expenditures of the academic and service programs of the College. It includes the cost of instructional, administrative and professional salaries; supplies and moveable equipment; library books and materials; maintenance of instructional and administrative equipment; intercollegiate athletics; and other costs pertaining to the educational program of the College.

B. Operations and Maintenance Fund

The Operations and Maintenance Fund is used to account for expenditures for the improvement, maintenance, repair, or benefit of buildings and property, including the cost of interior decorating and the installation, improvement, repair, replacement, and maintenance of building fixtures; rental of buildings and property for community college purposes; payment of all premiums for insurance upon buildings and building fixtures. If approved by resolution of the Board, the payment of salaries of grounds employees, engineers, or other custodial employees; College police and security personnel; all costs of fuel, lights, gas, water, telephone service, and custodial supplies and equipment; and the cost of professional surveys of the condition of College buildings are allowed.

C. Auxiliary Enterprises Fund

The Auxiliary Enterprises Fund is used to account for College services where a fee is charged and the activity is intended to be self-supporting. Accounts of this nature include the food service operation and the bookstore. College services which are accounted for in the Auxiliary Enterprises Fund shall be operated so as to generate income in excess of expenditures, insofar as possible.

Only monies over which the institution has complete control should be included in this fund. Subsidies for auxiliary services by the Education Fund should be shown as transfers to the appropriate account.

D. Restricted Purposes Fund

The Restricted Purposes Fund is used for the purpose of accounting for monies that have restrictions regarding their use. Each specific project should be accounted for separately using a complete group of self-balancing accounts within the Restricted Purposes Fund. Care should be taken in establishing each group of self-balancing accounts so that the accounting and reporting requirements of the grantor are met. If the grantor provides an accounting manual, it should be followed for the group of self-balancing accounts. ICCB grants which should be accounted for in this fund include those found in the ICCB Fiscal Management Manual's State Grant Financial Compliance Section III A 12. Additionally, this fund should be used to account for other state, federal, or other funds which are restricted for a specific purpose.

E. Working Cash Fund

This fund is used to account for the proceeds of working cash bonds.

F. General Fixed Assets Account Group

This group of accounts is to be used to record the value of plant assets (comprised of physical property owned by the College other than land, buildings, and equipment constituting fixtures), and is normally supported by detailed inventory records.

G. Investment in Plant Fund

Plant is defined as the physical property owned by the College. This fund is established for the purpose of accounting for land, buildings, and fixtures.

I. Audit Fund

The Audit Fund is used to record the audit tax levy. Monies in this fund are used only for the payment of auditing expenses.

J. Liability, Protection and Settlement Fund

The tort liability and Medicare insurance/FICA tax levies should be recorded in this fund. The monies in this fund, including interest earned on the assets of this fund, should be used only for the purposes authorized by Section 9-107 of the Local Governmental and Governmental Employees Tort Immunity Act (745 ILCS 10/9-107), such as payment of tort liability, unemployment, or worker's compensation insurance claims, or by 40 ILCS 5/21-110.1 to pay the cost of participation in the Federal Medicare/Social Security programs.

K. Trust and Agency Fund

The Trust and Agency Fund is used to receive and hold funds when the College serves as a custodian or fiscal agent for another body. The College has an agency rather than a beneficial interest in these monies. For example, College club monies would be accounted for in this fund.

L. Operations and Maintenance (Restricted) Fund (Site and Construction Fund)

This fund is used to account for monies restricted for building purposes and site acquisition. Proceeds from building bonds are recorded in this fund.

M. General Long-Term Debt Account Group

This is the fund that records liabilities that exist beyond the current year's operation.

N. Bond and Interest Fund

This fund is used to record proceeds of tax levies for bond and interest (debt service) purposes and to account for payment of principal, interest, and related charges on outstanding bonds.

O. Building Bond Proceeds Fund

Proceeds from construction bonds may be recorded in this fund. Expenditures from this fund are governed by the district's building bond indenture(s). Proceeds from construction bonds may be recorded in the Operations and Maintenance (Restricted) Fund.

07.01.03 Fiscal Year

The fiscal year for Harper College shall begin on the first day of July of each year and end on June 30 of the following year.

07.01.04 Financial Policies

The financial policies set forth below reinforce the financial integrity of Harper College while providing accessible educational opportunities for students. These policies will be reviewed every five years to assess their applicability and effectiveness.

- Limit annual tuition and per credit hour fee increases to 5% of total tuition and fees or the Illinois statute limitation using the Higher Education Cost Adjustment (HECA) rate change as a guideline, as appropriate, to promote a balanced budget for Harper College and financial consistency for Harper students.
- Maintain a fund balance in the Tax Capped Funds between 40% and 60% of the budgeted annual expenditures.
- Support quality teaching and learning through sound financial practices consistent with maintaining a Aaa bond rating.

07.01.05 Financial Reports

It is the function of the office of the Executive Vice President of Finance and Administrative Services to issue appropriate monthly and annual financial reports. The monthly financial reports shall be provided seven calendar days in advance of the Board's regular monthly meetings, whenever possible.

07.01.07 Annual Budget

An annual budget shall be developed in compliance with all applicable laws. The Board has designated the President and the Executive Vice President of Finance and Administrative Services to prepare the annual tentative budget. The budget shall contain appropriate financial guidelines which are to be reviewed annually by the Board, in conjunction with adoption of the budget. No change to the financial guidelines can be made without Board approval. The budget shall be considered as an estimate of revenue to be received as well as a controlled spending plan for the ensuing year.

The tentative budget shall be filed with the Secretary of this Board, and notice that the tentative budget is available for public inspection shall be published and a public hearing on the tentative budget shall be conducted on a timely basis in accordance with the law.

07.01.09 Basis of Accounting

The accounting procedures and financial records of the College will be established and maintained in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), and with the ICCB Fiscal Management Manual insofar as consistent with GAAP. As do most governmental entities, the College uses the Modified Accrual Method of Accounting, in which revenues are recognized in the period they become available and measurable, and expenditures are recognized in the period the associated liability is incurred. For example, real estate taxes which are uncollected but determinable as of June 30 may be accrued as revenue to the extent collections are received within 60 days after the close of the fiscal year.

07.01.11 Intra-fund Budget Transfers

Transfers may be approved from time to time between the various budget items in a fund, not to exceed in the aggregate ten percent of the total of such fund as set forth in the budget, in accordance with Section 3-20.1 of the Public Community College Act, 110 ILCS 805/3-20.1.

Such intra-fund budget transfers will be presented to the Board of Trustees for approval prior to close of the fiscal year.

07.01.13 Inter-fund Transfers

Transfers between various funds may be appropriate from time to time to the extent allowed by law. Such transfers will be presented to the Board of Trustees for approval prior to completion of the annual financial audit.

07.01.15 Vendor Payment

The Treasurer of the College is authorized to make payments to vendors prior to approval by the Board of Trustees subject to the following conditions and limitations:

- A. At the Board of Trustees next meeting following such payment, a report of payments shall be presented for ratification by the Board of Trustees.
- B. Payments may be made only for items delineated in a category of the budget of the College or otherwise approved by the Board.
- C. No payment shall be made under the terms of this Policy unless there is documentation that the services and goods have been received and that the invoice is consistent with terms of the transaction.
- D. No payment shall be made under the terms of this Policy unless properly authorized by the appropriate administrator.
- E. No payment shall be made under the terms of this Policy unless in compliance with all other College policies, including but not limited to the College's Purchasing Policy (Section 7.3.0).

07.01.17 Investment of College Funds

This policy provides for direction to the College Treasurer on investment of College funds. All investments shall be made in accordance with the Illinois Public Funds Investment Act (30 ILCS 235/1 et seq.), as may be amended from time to time (hereinafter referred to as the "Act"). All transactions involving College funds and related activity of any funds shall be administered in accordance with the provisions of this policy and the canons of the "prudent person" standard.

Objectives

- Safety of Principal - Investments shall be undertaken in a manner that seeks to ensure the preservation of principal in the overall portfolio. To attain this objective only appropriate

investment instruments will be purchased and insurance or collateral may be required to ensure the return of principal.

- Liquidity - The College's investment portfolio shall be structured in such manner as to provide sufficient liquidity to pay obligations as they come due.
- Return on Investments - The investment portfolio shall be designed to attain a market-average rate of return throughout budgetary and economic cycles, taking into account the risk constraints, the cash flow characteristics of the portfolio and legal restrictions for return on investments.
- Maintaining the Public's Trust - The investment officers shall seek to act responsibly as custodians of the public trust and shall avoid any transaction that might impair public confidence in the College, the Board of Trustees or the College Treasurer.

Investment Instruments

The College may invest in any type of security allowed by the Act, but the College Treasurer shall not invest in derivatives of authorized investments.

Diversification

The College shall diversify its investment portfolio to eliminate the risk of loss resulting in over concentration in a specific maturity, issuer, or class of securities. The College Treasurer shall periodically determine, revise and report to the Board on diversification strategies.

Collateralization

It is the policy of the College to require that time deposits in excess of FDIC insurable limits at a single financial institution be secured by collateral or private insurance to protect public deposits should any such institution default.

Eligible collateral instruments are any investment instruments which a public community college is permitted to acquire under and in accordance with 110 ILCS 805/3-47 and 30 ILCS 235/6(d). The collateral must be placed in safekeeping at or before the time the College acquires the investments so that it is evident that the purchase of the investment is predicated on the securing of collateral.

Safekeeping of Collateral

Third party safekeeping is required for all collateral. To accomplish this, the securities may be held at the following locations:

- A. A Federal Reserve Bank or its branch office
- B. At another custodial facility in a trust or safekeeping department through book-entry at the Federal Reserve
- C. By an escrow agent of the pledging institution
- D. By the trust department of the issuing bank

Substitution or exchange of securities held in safekeeping for the College may be approved only by the College Treasurer, and only on condition that the market value of the replacement securities is equal to or greater than the market value of the securities for which they are being substituted.

Safekeeping of Securities

Third party safekeeping is required for all securities and commercial paper. To accomplish this, the securities can be held at the following locations:

- A. A Federal Reserve Bank or its branch office
- B. At another custodial facility - generally in a trust or safekeeping department through book-entry at the Federal Reserve unless physical securities are involved.
- C. In an insured account at a primary reporting dealer

Original certificates of deposits will be held by the originating bank.

Qualified Financial Institutions and Intermediaries

1. Depositories - Demand Deposits

Any financial institution selected by the College shall provide normal banking services, including, but not limited to: checking accounts, wire transfers and safekeeping services.

The College will not maintain funds in any financial institution that is not a member of the FDIC system. In addition, the

College will not maintain funds in any institution not willing or able to post required collateral for funds or to purchase private insurance to protect College funds on deposit in excess of FDIC insurable limits.

2. Banks and Savings and Loans - Certificates of Deposit

Any financial institution selected to be eligible for the College's competitive certificate of deposit purchase program must meet the following requirements:

- a. Shall provide wire transfer and certificate of deposit safekeeping services.
- b. Shall be a member of FDIC system and shall be willing and able to post required collateral or private insurance for funds in excess of FDIC insurable limits.
- c. Shall have met the financial criteria as established in the investment procedures of the College.

3. Intermediaries

Any financial intermediary selected to be eligible for the College's competitive investment program must meet the following requirements:

- a. Shall provide wire transfer and deposit safekeeping services.
- b. Shall be a member of a recognized U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission Self-Regulatory Organization such as the New York Stock Exchange, National Association of Securities Dealers, Municipal Securities Rule Making Board, etc.
- c. Shall provide an annual audit upon request.
- d. Shall have an office of Supervisory Jurisdiction within the State of Illinois and be licensed to conduct business in this State.
- e. Shall be familiar with the College's investment policy and accept financial responsibility for any inappropriate investment.

Management of Program

The College Treasurer is authorized to purchase and sell investments, authorize wire transfers, authorize the release of pledged collateral, and to execute any documents required under this policy. These documents include, but are not limited to, wire transfer agreements, depository agreements, safekeeping agreements and custody agreements.

The Treasurer is responsible for management of the College's investment program, and shall establish a system of internal controls and written operational procedures designed to prevent losses of funds that might arise from fraud, employee error, misrepresentation by third parties, or imprudent actions by employees of the entity. Such procedures shall include explicit delegation of authority to persons responsible for investment transactions: check signing, check reconciliation, deposits, bond payments, report preparation and wire transfers. No person may engage in any investment transaction except as provided for under the terms of this policy and the corresponding procedures.

The Treasurer may use financial intermediaries, brokers, and/or financial institutions to solicit bids for securities and certificates of deposit. These intermediaries shall be approved in advance by the Board of Trustees.

Performance

The Treasurer will seek to earn a rate of return appropriate for the type of investments being managed in accordance with the objectives established in this document. In addition to the types of investments allowed by policy (credit risk), consideration will be given to other inherent risks such as concentration by issuer (concentration of credit risk) and timing of maturities (interest rate risk). In general, the Treasurer will strive to earn an average rate of return equal to or greater than the Illinois Funds rate.

Ethics and Conflicts of Interest

Officers and employees of the College involved in the investment process shall refrain from personal business activity that could conflict with the proper execution of the investment program, or which could impair their ability to make impartial investment decisions.

Indemnification

Investment officers and employees of the College acting in accordance with this investment policy and written operational procedures as have been or may be established, and exercising due diligence, shall be relieved of personal liability for an individual security's credit risk or market changes.

Reporting

The Treasurer shall submit to the College's [Board of Trustees](#) and the President, a monthly investment report which shall include information regarding securities in the portfolio by class or type, book value, income earned, and market values as of the report date. Generally accepted accounting principles shall be used for valuation purposes. The report shall indicate any areas of policy concern and planned revision of investment strategies, including its effectiveness, meeting the College's need for safety, liquidity, return on investment, diversity and general performance.

Sustainable Investing

Material, relevant, and decision-useful sustainability factors have been or are regularly considered by the College, within the bounds of financial and fiduciary prudence, in evaluating investment decisions. Such factors include but are not limited to: (i) corporate governance and leadership factors; (ii) environmental factors; (iii) social capital factors; (iv) human capital factors; and (v) business model and innovation factors, as provided under the Illinois Sustainable Investing Act.

07.01.19

Insurance

The [Board of Trustees](#) shall provide for a program of risk management for the College consistent with all of the legal requirements pertaining thereto and consistent with the financial ability of the district. The Board shall purchase with College funds the type and amount of insurance necessary or shall set aside adequate reserves to self-insure in order to protect itself as a corporate body, its individual members, its appointed officers, and its employees from financial loss arising out of any claim, demand, suit or judgment by reason of alleged negligence or other act resulting in accidental injury to any person or in property damage within or without the College buildings while the above named insured are acting in the discharge of their duties within the scope of their employment and/or under the direction of the Board.

Furthermore, within its program of risk management, the Board of Trustees will provide from College funds the type and amount of insurance coverage to insure and/or self-insure all real and personal property of the College, to insure and/or self-insure the College from losses due to employee dishonesty, injury or death, and to provide a program of health and welfare benefits for employees to the limits established from time to time by the Board.

Further, within its program of risk management the Board of Trustees shall purchase from College funds the type and amount of insurance coverage to insure Board members and College employees against financial loss, including attorney's fees and court costs, arising out of any demand, claim, suit or judgment by reason of an alleged wrongful act of the Board member or College employee, provided that the Board member or College employee, at the time of the alleged act or omission causing the damages, was acting in the discharge of their duties and within the scope of employment.

Within the scope of this policy, the President is directed to develop and maintain rules and regulations necessary for carrying out all aspects of this policy including the designation of the College employee responsible for administration and supervision of the risk management program, with the approval of the Board of Trustees.

07.01.21 Travel and Meeting Expense Reimbursement

The College will reimburse Board members, College employees, and other individuals for authorized travel and meeting expenses incurred specifically for College-related business pursuant to the Local Government Travel Expense Control Act, 50 ILCS 150, *et seq.* This includes expenditures directly incident to official College business travel involving reimbursement to travelers or direct payment to private agencies providing transportation or related services. Reimbursement requests for travel should be submitted monthly.

The Board will consider and act upon reimbursement requests for other members of the Board by a roll call vote at an open meeting of the Board. The Board Chair will consider and act upon reimbursement requests for the College President. The College President will consider and act upon reimbursement for administrators reporting directly to him/her. Reimbursement requests for travel and meeting expenses of other College employees will be approved by the appropriate supervisor.

The College shall reimburse permitted travel expenses as set forth on Exhibit A to this policy. Any employee that exceeds the maximum allowed under the adopted regulations, or other reimbursable expenses because of emergency or other extraordinary circumstances may only be approved by a roll call

vote of the Board at an open meeting.

The College shall only approve reimbursement of expenses if the Board member or employee follows proper procedures when submitting said expenses.

All documents submitted to the College for reimbursement are public records subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, unless otherwise protected under that Act.

The College shall not reimburse any Board member, employee, or other individual for any entertainment expense including, but is not limited to, shows, amusements, theaters, circuses, sporting events, or any other place of public or private entertainment or amusement, unless such expense is ancillary to the purpose of the program or event.

The College shall comply with all other requirements of the Local Government Travel Expense Act and any College policy, procedure or resolution that conflicts with the provisions of the Local Government Travel Expense Act is hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

EXHIBIT A – HARPER COLLEGE PERMISSIBLE TRAVEL EXPENSES

Types of Official Business Applicable to this Policy. The College shall only reimburse travel expenses, including transportation, meals and lodging that are ancillary or otherwise necessary for official College business. Types of official College business for which travel expenses may be reimbursed include conferences, meetings, athletic or other student events, board, administrator, or faculty events, lobbying or other government relations activities, or any other event or program that is attended to further the College's mission.

The maximum reimbursable rates for travel are set forth as follows:

Maximum Reimbursable Rates for Transportation	
Air Travel	Lowest reasonable rate (coach)
Auto	IRS standard mileage rate at time of reimbursement
Rental Car	Lowest reasonable rate (midsize or smaller)
Rail or Bus	Lowest reasonable rate and cost shall not exceed airfare
Taxi, Shuttle, Rideshare, or Public Transportation	Actual reasonable rate

Maximum Reimbursable Rates for Meals	
Breakfast	General Services Administration (GSA) city per diem daily rate.
Lunch	
Dinner	

Maximum Reimbursable Rates for Lodging	
In the Country	General Services Administration (GSA) city per diem rate. For conferences, the conference rate will be reimbursed.
Outside of the Country	As approved by the Board

The following expenses **shall not** be reimbursable:
Alcoholic beverages, personal items, travel insurance, extra bag- gage charges, laundry, and supplemental rental car charges.

Off-campus Meeting Expenses

Reimbursement for off-campus meeting expenses is allowable under special circumstances such as those related to hosting guests, donors, or potential donors. Attendees must be listed on the reimbursement form, along with the purpose of the meeting.

Reimbursement for alcohol as a business expense is subject to approval by the President or designee. In addition, all state and federal laws must be followed.

07.01.23 Audit

The Board shall annually engage the services of a public accounting firm to conduct the annual independent external audit of College financial activities and to prepare the audit report required by state law to be submitted to the Board and to be filed with the ICCB by December 31 following the end of the College's fiscal year.

The audit shall conform to the requirements of the ICCB Fiscal Management Manual and the following practices:

Section 201* - The President may not contract with the College's audit firm for non-audit services without the prior approval of the Board.

Section 203* - The College should rotate the lead/coordinating and reviewing audit firm partners no less frequently than every seven years.

Section 204* - The management letter, if any, will be submitted to the administration for review and response. The audit firm will then incorporate the administration's responses into the management letter. The President and Executive Vice President of Finance and Administrative Services shall provide the management letter, with auditor's findings and administrative responses, to the Board of Trustees.

The Audit Committee or other appropriate Finance Committee of the Board of Trustees should meet annually with the audit firm outside the presence of management.

Section 206* - An individual employed by an external auditing firm who has worked on the College's audit may not be hired for the position of President, Executive Vice President of Finance and Administrative Services or Controller for a minimum period of one year from the date of completion of such audit, absent exigent circumstances.

Section 301* - The Audit Committee shall be composed of members of the Board, appointed by the Board Chair, and shall meet at least semi-annually to recommend audit policies and procedures to the Board for its review and consideration including the following:

1. The appointment, compensation and oversight of the work of any registered public accounting firm employed by the College. The Audit Committee should meet annually with the College's

audit firm to review and discuss the financial reports and related audit activities.

2. Establishment of procedures for:
 - a. The receipt, retention and processing of complaints received by the College regarding accounting, internal controls and auditing matters.
 - b. The confidential, anonymous submission by employees regarding financial improprieties. All provisions of the Confidential Reporting policy found in 02.07.00 apply to this section.

Section 302* – Certification – The President and Executive Vice President of Finance and Administrative Services shall provide written representations to the auditor that:

1. They have reviewed the report;
2. Based on their knowledge, the report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omission of a material fact that makes the statements misleading; and,
3. Based on their knowledge, the financial statements present in all material respects the financial condition and results of operations.

Section 402* - The Board may not allow for the creation or appearance of conflicts of interest by providing loans to senior management.

Section 404* - The President and Executive Vice President of Finance and Administrative Services shall establish and maintain an adequate internal control structure and procedures for financial reporting. Each shall disclose to the auditors and the Board any known significant deficiencies in the design and operations of internal controls or procedures for financial reporting.

* Section numbers refer to, and provisions following them are patterned on, sections of the federal Sarbanes-Oxley Law, legislation which, although not directly applicable to non-profit entities and units of local government, has informed their consideration of “best practices” in this area.

07.03.00 [PURCHASING](#)

07.03.01 Purchasing Policy

All contracts will be let in accordance with Illinois law and regulations, and with administrative procedures promulgated pursuant to this policy.

Subject to Board of Trustees approval when required under this policy, the College President is authorized to sign all contracts on behalf of the Board.

A. Contracts over \$25,000 for which bidding is not required

Items exempted by state statute from competitive sealed bidding may be procured by competitive sealed proposals in accordance with administrative procedures.

The Board delegates to the President, or President's designee, authorization to purchase from the state/governmental contracts or cooperatives/consortia that meet the requirements of Illinois state law. The President shall inform the Board of purchases made through the state/governmental contracts or cooperatives/consortia through monthly reporting.

B. Competitive bidding of contracts for expenditures exceeding \$25,000

Contracts for the purchase of supplies, materials or work involving an expenditure of more than \$25,000 shall be awarded to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder after public advertisement, in accordance with procedures specified in, and except as otherwise provided by, Section 3-27.1 of the Public Community College Act, 110 ILCS 805/3-27.1. Whenever possible, award of competitively bid contracts involving expenditures exceeding \$25,000 shall be made only after receipt and evaluation of a minimum of three bids.

C. President's authority to approve change orders

The scope of the President's authority to approve construction contract change orders shall be as set out in Policy 07.05.09, Facility Planning.

D. Administrative authority to enter into contracts under \$25,000

The Board of Trustees delegates to the President or designee authority to enter into contracts involving expenditures under \$25,000, in accordance with

administrative procedures. When deemed appropriate by the President or designee, such contracts shall be based on submittal of written or verbal quotations by at least three prospective contractors. The President shall inform the Board of such contracts quarterly.

The Board of Trustees will be notified in advance of any substantial changes to the administrative procedures implementing this policy.

E. Centralized purchasing function

Harper College will maintain a centralized purchasing function. Purchase orders must be authorized by the President or designee.

Contractor eligibility, prevailing wage, and equal opportunity compliance

Bid documents and solicitations of quotes from prospective contractors shall contain statements requiring them to certify their eligibility to enter into public contracts, compliance with the Prevailing Wage Act as may be applicable, and compliance with applicable laws regarding equal employment opportunity.

07.03.03 Cooperating College Contracts

The Board recognizes that at times College accounts will be used as short-term depositories for various consortium-like activities (Activities), such as conference sponsorship, which are ultimately funded by third parties. The Board authorizes the College President or designee to sign contracts related to these Activities provided that such contracts expressly provide that the College shall not be liable under these contracts and that performance and payment obligations under such contracts are the responsibility of the third parties providing the funds and services involved.

07.03.05 Disadvantaged Business Enterprises

The College recognizes the importance of increasing the participation of businesses owned by minorities, females and persons with disabilities¹ in public contracts in an effort to overcome the discrimination and victimization such firms have historically

¹ As defined in 30 ILCS 575/2.

encountered.² It is the College's policy to promote the economic development of businesses owned by minorities, females and persons with disabilities by setting aspirational goals to award contracts to businesses owned by minorities, females, and persons with disabilities for certain services as provided by the Business Enterprise for Minorities, Females and Persons with Disabilities Act, 30 ILCS 575/0.01 *et seq.* (the "Act") and the Business Enterprise Council for Minorities, Females, and Persons with Disabilities (the "Council").³

In support of this policy, the College will encourage the participation of qualified minority, female and persons with disability owned businesses by advertising, whenever practicable with appropriate media and other organizations focused on the needs of businesses owned by minorities, females, and persons with disabilities to alert potential contractors and suppliers of opportunities. The College will support key administrative and staff members to attend and participate in training sessions, workshops, conferences and seminars dealing with procurement through qualified minority, female and persons with disability-owned businesses in compliance with the Act.

In furtherance of the above:

1. The College President⁴ shall appoint a liaison to the Council;
2. The College Liaison shall file an annual compliance plan with the Council, which shall include a copy of this Policy, signed by the College President, which shall outline and summarize the College's goals for contracting with businesses owned by minorities, females and persons with disabilities for the current fiscal year, the manner in which the College intends to reach these goals, a timetable to reach these goals, and procedures to support this Policy as specified by the Act⁵;
3. The College Liaison shall file an annual report with the Council⁶;

² See 30 ILCS 575/1.

³ This Council was created to implement, monitor, and enforce the goals of the Act. See 30 ILCS 575/5.

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ 30 ILCS 575/6(a).

⁶ 30 ILCS 575/6(c).

4. The College Liaison shall provide notice to the Council of proposed contracts for professional and artistic services⁷;
5. The College shall use bid forms identifying the bid amounts and percentage of the contract awarded to disadvantaged businesses identified in the utilization plans⁸; and
6. The College shall comply with all other requirements of the Act.

07.05.00 PHYSICAL PLANT AND FACILITIES

07.05.01 Use of College Facilities

The primary purpose of the College facilities is to accommodate the educational program. Therefore, first priority for the use of all College facilities will be accorded to College classes and scheduled College activities. Use by College-recognized student and faculty organizations and other College-related activities shall also take precedence over use of College facilities by outside groups.

However, as a public community college, Harper College shall make its facilities available for use by outside groups whenever such use would not interfere with the College's educational services to students and the community, in accordance with administrative procedures promulgated to implement this policy.

07.05.03 Security and Maintenance

Buildings and equipment constitute one of the greatest investments of the College. The Board will seek to protect College facilities and equipment through adequate security provisions, including the appointment of security personnel in accordance with the requirements set forth in 110 ILCS 805/3-42.1.

In order to provide physical conditions most conducive to carrying out the educational program of the College, an adequate preventive maintenance program shall be carried out.

⁷ 30 ILCS 575/6a.

⁸ 30 ILCS 575/7(6).

07.05.05 Inventories

The College shall maintain an appropriate inventory of moveable furniture and College equipment, including voice, video and data processing equipment comprising the technology system. Periodic audits shall be made of the inventory and a physical inventory shall be taken, at such intervals as are deemed necessary by the President or designee.

07.05.07 Disposition of Personal Property

Personal Property certified by the President or designee to be obsolete, worn out, or no longer needed for College purposes may be sold or otherwise disposed of upon approval of the Board of Trustees. The Administration will determine the method of disposal most beneficial to the College consistent with Illinois Law. The President or designee will report to the Board annually on the disposition of personal property of the College.

07.05.09 Facility Planning

The Administration shall on an ongoing basis evaluate the College's facilities needs, and actions or projects which should be pursued to address those needs.

Action by the Board of Trustees shall be required to:

1. Authorize the President to proceed with the planning of and design for expansion of and/or capital improvements to the College's physical plant. General ongoing repairs and maintenance shall not require such authorization.
2. Authorize selection of design professionals in accordance with the Illinois Professional Services Selection Act, 50 ILCS 510/01 *et seq.*
3. Approve the President's proposed financial plan and recommended terms of the contract(s) for professional services in connection with each project.
4. Approve construction documents and bid specifications on recommendation of the President and authorize the President to proceed with bidding of the project.
5. Approve award of construction contracts on recommendation of the President.

President's authority to approve change orders to construction contracts.

The President or designee is authorized to approve individual change orders to a contract up to a total \$50,000 or 10% of the approved contract price, whichever is less.

In the case of a change order exceeding \$10,000 or which would extend the contract completion time by more than 30 days, the President's or designee's approval shall be accompanied by a written determination that (1) the circumstances said to necessitate the change in performance were not reasonably foreseeable at the time the contract was signed, or (2) the change is germane to the original contract as signed, or (3) the change order is in the best interests of the College, in accordance with 720 ILCS 5/33E-9.

The President will update the Board quarterly on all change orders associated with a major renovation or a new construction project.

07.07.00 WASTE REDUCTION

The Board of Trustees recognizes the importance of conserving natural resources and that the proper disposal of waste in Illinois and across the country has become a serious problem due to diminishing landfill capacity. In compliance with Illinois Public Act 86-1363, the Board of Trustees hereby supports the development and implementation of a Waste Reduction Program for William Rainey Harper College, including source reduction, recycling, the purchasing of products with recycled content, and ongoing education of faculty, staff, students and the community with regard to waste reduction measures.

The Board authorizes the President or designee to oversee the continual refinement of a Waste Reduction Program, understanding that continuing resource commitment will be necessary. The President shall also be responsible for causing the development of related administrative rules and procedures.

07.09.00 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- 07.09.01 Purposes of and Access to Information Technology Resources
- Harper College provides for the use of technology and information equipment, software, networks and facilities to further the College's mission of instruction, communication, research, and public service. Access to the College's information technology resources is granted to its students, employees and other authorized users as a privilege and must be treated as such. The College reserves the right, at its discretion and at any time, to extend, limit, restrict or deny network and computing privileges and access to its information technology resources to any student, employee, department or division.

07.09.03 Acceptable Use for Harper College Information Technology

I. Philosophy:

Harper College provides technology resources, software, and facilities to further the College's mission. Access and use of facilities is a privilege and must be treated as such by all users. Acceptable use is based on common sense, common decency, and civility. Users are subject to guidelines set in this Acceptable Use Policy.

II. Risk and Responsibility: E-Mail, Internet Resources, and Electronic Files

A. Security

Harper College utilizes best practices and industry standards to protect data and filter materials transmitted or received via the College. Harper College does not assume liability for offensive material that any user may encounter, such as material that is illegal, defamatory, obscene, inaccurate, or controversial.

Users are responsible for all activities originating from their account(s), including all information sent from, intentionally requested, solicited, or viewed from their account(s) and publicly accessible information placed on a computer using their account(s). In addition, users are responsible for logging off applications and computers to prevent unauthorized access.

In addition, users are responsible for refraining from sharing Personally Identifiable Information (PII) or other sensitive data while using collaboration tool applications, including but not limited to chat, email, Artificial Intelligence (AI), and/or video conferencing applications.

Sensitive data disclosed to the public could be considered a violation of Federal and State laws, including but not limited to Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA), Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), Payment Card Industry (PCI), Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (GLBA).

B. Privacy

Users are strictly prohibited from accessing files and information other than their own, those intended for the user, and those for which the user has permission from authorized College personnel to access.

The College reserves the right to access its systems, including current and archival files of users' accounts; if that access would be imperative to conducting College business; if there is strong evidence of improper usage; or strong evidence of impropriety. Electronic files can be inspected under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act (IFOA). Any inspection of electronic files, and any action based upon

such review, will be governed by all applicable federal and state laws and College policies.

C. Education and Training

All users are responsible for using the facilities and all forms of technology resources ethically and legally. Users are expected to follow equipment and lab usage guidelines and, when necessary, receive training in using these resources and accept responsibility for their work. In addition, users are responsible for learning and adequately using the features of securing and/or sharing access to data.

D. Personal Use

As a result of agreements Harper College has with technology providers, users may be offered technology for personal use. If users take advantage of these offers, any agreement, conditions, or terms of use are between the user and the outside technology provider. Information resource providers outside the College may, in turn, impose additional conditions of appropriate use, which the user is responsible for observing when using those resources.

III. Unacceptable Uses:

It is the joint responsibility of all users to help avoid unacceptable uses such as but not limited to:

- Using the resources for any purpose, which violates federal laws, state laws, or College policies.
- Using the resources for commercial purposes.
- Misrepresenting the user's identity or affiliation in the use of information technology resources.
- Creating, sending, storing, or soliciting patently harassing, intimidating, abusive, or offensive material to or about others.
- Intercepting, disrupting, or altering electronic communications.
- Using another person's account, user ID, name, or password.
- Sharing individual user accounts and resources with another person or another organization.
- Attempting to exceed, evade, or change assigned specifications or limitations of an account without the approval of appropriate College personnel. Impeding the use of systems by others.
- Attempting to corrupt the system.
- Reproducing, copying, downloading, or distributing copyrighted materials without authorization

IV. Consequences:

Abuse of these guidelines will result in possible legal action and/or official campus disciplinary procedures. Incidents involving unacceptable uses will be handled through existing processes.

V. Generative AI Guidelines

As part of Harper College's commitment to the ethical and responsible use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies, this policy establishes the principles and guidelines governing their use. The goal is to ensure that generative AI tools are employed ethically, maintain data

integrity, and are compliant with Harper College's Information Security Policies along with all relevant laws and regulations.

Generative AI refers to a category of artificial intelligence that creates new content, such as text, images, audio, or code, based on patterns learned from existing data. Violations of this policy may result in restricted access to the College's technical environment, data, or other appropriate disciplinary action.

Objective

The purpose of this policy is to ensure the proper use of generative AI tools by Harper users. This is to uphold the commitment to the professional integrity of Harper College.

Scope

All Harper users who use College-owned or personal-owned devices to access the College's technological environment and data must adhere to this policy. A 'Harper user' includes any individual authorized to access Harper College's technology environment and data, including faculty, staff, students, contractors, student workers, parents and other community members. The Policy covers all generative AI, which refers to systems trained on datasets to produce various types of content such as text, images, videos, sounds, or other work products in response to prompts.

Policy

All Harper user technology usages are subject to Harper's Acceptable Use Policy. When utilizing a generative AI tool, Harper users are expected to uphold high standards of professionalism and discretion. These guidelines provide some examples of permitted or prohibited use of generative AI tools. Harper College reserves the right to access and monitor AI content shared, including but not limited to messages, prompts, and files. This Policy will continuously be reviewed and updated in accordance with ongoing changes in generative AI technology.

Departmental purchases of generative AI tools must be approved using the Technology Purchase Request process.

Harper User Responsibility

I. AI-generated content may contain damaging information that is:

- Inaccurate
- Misleading
- Fabricated
- Malicious
- Unethical
- Discriminatory
- Copyrighted

Harper users are accountable for their actions, including protecting confidential data and creating content. Harper users are the authors of AI-generated content and are responsible for it. Before distributing the AI-generated content, Harper users must review the AI-generated content and rectify any biased, inaccurate, harmful, or inappropriate elements.

II. Generative AI has enabled cybercriminals to produce highly developed phishing emails, malware attacks, and deep fakes - images or recordings convincingly manipulated to falsely portray someone saying or doing something without their consent. Harper users should report any suspicious messages or content to Harper Information Security.

III. Harper users are responsible for the usage of data and how it is utilized by the generative AI tool. This includes all data entered and retrieved from AI tools.

IV. Harper users are responsible for ensuring the appropriate use of generative AI tools within Harper College. They must report policy violations to Harper Information Security.

Appropriate Use

Appropriate generative AI tool usage, examples of which are described below. This list is not intended to be exhaustive but rather to provide illustrative examples to guide your use of generative AI tools.

- Use should be limited to college related functions.
- Obtain explicit consent from all parties before utilizing AI tools to create content, where applicable or legally required.
- If applicable, Harper users must utilize multi-factor authentication (MFA) protocol.
- Harper users may use public information as defined in the Harper Data Classification Policy & Procedure and the Illinois Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

Inappropriate Use

Harper users should not distribute material that is inaccurate, misleading, fabricated, malicious, unethical, discriminatory, or copyrighted. Users of Harper systems shall not disclose information about students or employees in violation of Harper College policies or laws that protect the confidentiality of such information.

Inappropriate generative AI tool usage is prohibited, examples of which are described below. This list is not intended to be exhaustive but rather to provide some illustrative examples to guide use of generative AI tools.

- Input any Confidential or Restricted Information as defined in the Harper Data Classification Policy & Procedure.
- Usage that violates Harper Information Security Policies.
- Any use that violates compliance requirements such as HIPAA, SOPPA, ISSRA, FERPA, and PCI.
- Using generative AI tools for personal monetary gain on Harper devices.
- Passing off AI-generated content as original work violates professional integrity.
- Using system access credentials, keys, or tokens (for Harper's systems or those of any third party) as prompts into generative AI tools.

Administrative rules and procedures governing acceptable use of information technology shall be published in such areas as the William Rainey Harper portal and website and in the College Catalog/Student Handbook. The Board reserves the right to define acceptable use of information technology by students, employees and other authorized users.

07.09.05 Enforcement of [Acceptable Use](#) Rules

Failure to adhere to acceptable use of information technology rules and procedures may result in sanctions including but not limited to loss of privileges, equipment and services, legal action and suspension or termination of enrollment or employment.

07.11.00 PLANNING POLICY

Within the scope of the College's Philosophy and Mission Statements, the Board of Trustees requires the administration to prepare, for Board approval, a [Strategic Long-Range Plan](#) (SLRP) spanning four years.

07.13.00 FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

The Board of Trustees recognizes the right of members of the public to have access to public records in accordance with the provisions of the Illinois [Freedom of Information Act](#) ("FOIA" or the "Act"), and affirms that it is the policy of the College to comply with the Act.

The College President shall designate one or more officials or employees to serve as its Freedom of Information Officer(s), and to develop and implement administrative procedures to effect compliance with the Act.

07.15.00 NEWS MEDIA ACCESS

The College will provide appropriate access to news media representatives to cover public meetings and cultural, instructional, athletic, and student activities. The administration will maintain procedures governing such access, including any requirements for coordination, approval, or restrictions necessary to ensure a safe and orderly campus environment.

07.17.00 FREE SPEECH AND EXPRESSIVE ACTIVITIES

Harper College (the "College") is committed to maintaining an educational environment that promotes free and open inquiry in all matters. In accordance with the First Amendment, it is the policy of Harper College to protect the free speech rights of students, employees and members of the public, while maintaining the order necessary for the College to accomplish its educational purpose. The College reserves the right to regulate the time, place and manner of expressive activities in order to promote a safe and inclusive campus environment.

07.19.00 DISTRIBUTION OF GRANT INDIRECT COST RATE

Harper College has a Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement approved by its cognizant agency, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, for use on grants, contracts, and other agreements with the federal government and other funders. Indirect costs (IDC) are defined as funds received through external financial awards, such as grants, that cover costs that are incurred within the general operation of the College and not otherwise identified within the budgeted project or grant-funded activity.

IDC shall be applied to all eligible grants, contracts, and other agreements with the federal government and other funders. Funds received as IDC shall be shared between the department or division initiating and implementing the grant (ranging from 30-60% depending on the grant) and the general education fund (70-40% depending on the grant). To account for the varied complexity of grants, the exact distribution percentage shall be determined during the proposal development process. As a self-sustaining division, Community Education will receive 100% of IDC recovered on its grants. Exceptions to these distributions must be approved by the Executive Vice President of Finance and Administrative Services.

07.21.00 USE OF HARPER COLLEGE'S NAME, LOGOS, TRADEMARKS

The College expressly reserves the right to limit third-party use of its name, logos, and trademarks. Any commercial or political use of the College's name, logos, and trademarks in any format or medium whatsoever is prohibited unless approved in writing by the College's Marketing Department.

07.23.00 SOCIAL MEDIA

The College recognizes the value of social media as a communication and educational platform. The College is committed to maintaining an educational environment that promotes free and open inquiry in all matters and protecting the free speech rights of students, employees and members of the public, while maintaining the order necessary for the College to accomplish its educational mission.

For the purpose of this Policy, social media is defined as any form of online publication that allows interactive communication, including but not limited to, social networking sites, blogs and websites. The College has fundamental interests in and expectations for social media use and communications by employees and students that relate to or impact the College, particularly when they are acting in a capacity where they represent Harper College. Pursuant to this Policy, the Board directs the College to establish definitions, rules, guidelines, and procedures for appropriate social media use and communications, considering input from affected College student and/or employee groups. College employees or students who do not comply with this Policy or any such rules, guidelines, or procedures may be subject to disciplinary or corrective action in accordance with applicable

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09.01.00 POLICY PROHIBITING SEX-BASED MISCONDUCT

William Rainey Harper College is committed to maintaining a safe and healthy educational and employment environment that is free from discrimination, harassment, and other misconduct on the basis of sex, which includes all forms of sex-based misconduct, including but not limited to sex discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual violence, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. The College also prohibits discrimination and harassment on the basis of sex, sexual orientation, gender-related identity, and expression, pregnancy, and parental status under its Equal Educational Opportunity and Non-Discrimination Policies.

It is the policy of William Rainey Harper College to comply with [Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 \("Title IX"\)](#), the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act ("VAWA"), Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 ("Title VII"), the Illinois Human Rights Act, the [Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act \("Clery Act"\)](#), the Preventing Sexual Violence in Higher Education Act, and all other applicable laws and local ordinances regarding unlawful sex-based discrimination, harassment or other misconduct.

Individuals found to have engaged in prohibited sex-based misconduct will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination and/or expulsion from the College.

Title IX Compliance

As required under Title IX, the College does not discriminate on the basis of sex in the education program or activity that it operates. This requirement not to discriminate extends to admission and employment.

The College has designated the Dean of Students and Chief Human Resources Officer as the Title IX Coordinators, responsible for coordinating the College's efforts to comply with its responsibilities under Title IX. Inquiries about the application of Title IX and 34 C.F.R. Part 106 may be directed to the College's Title IX Coordinators, the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights at the United States Department of Education, or both.

Retaliation Prohibited

Any form of retaliation, including intimidation, threats, harassment, and other adverse action taken or threatened against any complainant or person reporting sex discrimination, sexual harassment or other sex-based misconduct, or against any person cooperating in the investigation of allegations of sex-based misconduct (including testifying, assisting, or participating in any manner in an investigation), is strictly prohibited.

Implementing Procedures

The College will establish, maintain and publish procedures implementing this Policy, which set forth:

- The scope and jurisdiction of the College's prohibition on sex-based misconduct;
- Definitions of prohibited conduct;
- Responsibilities of and contact information for the College's Title IX Coordinators, identified as the Dean of Students and Chief Human Resources Officer;
- Options for assistance following an incident of sex-based discrimination, harassment or other misconduct;
- Procedures for reporting and confidentially disclosing alleged sex based misconduct, including a mechanism for reporting and independent review of allegations against one elected official by another elected official;
- The College's response to reports of alleged sex-based misconduct;
- The College's grievance process for complaints alleging Title IX sexual harassment and/or alleging sexual violence, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking;
- Prevention and education programming provided to College students; and
- Training and education provided to the Title IX Coordinator(s), campus law enforcement, campus security, and anyone else involved in the receipt of reports or, responding to, investigating or adjudicating alleged incidents of sexual discrimination, harassment, or other misconduct, or involved in the referral or provision of services to survivors.

09.02.00 CLERY CAMPUS SECURITY ACT

It is the policy of Harper College to comply with the Clery Act which requires:

- Policy, Procedure and Program Development. The Department of Education requires the following:
 - A. Submission of the Annual Security Report (ASR)
 - B. Maintenance of a Daily Crime Log
 - C. Development and use of Emergency Response and Evacuation Procedures
- Crime Statistics. The Clery Act requires Harper College to include three years of crime statistics on any Harper campus or immediately adjacent to and accessible from the campus.
- Clery Geography. The Clery Act includes buildings or properties that are:
 - A. On Harper College campus (Palatine, Prospect Heights, Schaumburg) or any Harper College satellite campuses and/or any leased location.
 - B. Public property within or immediately adjacent to the campus.
 - C. In or on non-campus buildings or property owned or controlled by Harper College.
- Off Campus Trip Procedures. The Clery Act requires a Harper College Campus Security Authority (CSA) to accompany students during an off-campus field trip. The designated CSA must submit a Field Trip packet to

the Harper College Police Department. This packet includes pertinent information about the field trip and participants.

- Campus Security Authority. Under the Clery Act, a crime is “reported” when it is brought to the attention of a Campus Security Authority, the institution’s police department or campus safety office, or local law enforcement personnel. CSAs identified by Human Resources must participate in annual training.

09.03.00 USE OF DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

09.03.01 Drug and Alcohol Abuse Policy

The College strives to provide a drug and alcohol-free environment and workplace as defined by the Drug Free Workplace Act of 1988 (41 U.S.C. §701 et seq.) and the Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1994 (20 U.S.C. §7101 et seq.).

The College prohibits the possession, use, distribution, dispensing and manufacture of illegal drugs, controlled substances, and alcohol by students and employees on its premises, in College-owned vehicles, while on call, or while working for the College, or as part of any College activity. Employees also are prohibited from being impaired by or under the influence of illegal drugs, controlled substances, and alcohol on College premises, while on call, or while working for the College. Any employee or student who violates this policy may be subject to disciplinary action, including termination from employment or expulsion from the institution. Employees disciplined for being impaired or under the influence of cannabis will be provided a reasonable opportunity to contest the basis of the College’s determination.

For purposes of this policy, a controlled substance means a substance that is:

1. Not legally obtainable;
2. Being used in a manner different than prescribed;
3. Legally obtainable, but has not been legally obtained; or
4. Referenced in federal or state-controlled substance acts.

In conformance with the Acts cited above, the President or designee shall establish a program and rules to implement this policy. The rules will be delineated on the Administrative Services website, in the [College Catalog/Student Handbook](#) and other appropriate publications.

09.03.03 Delivery of Alcoholic Beverages

As a general policy, alcoholic beverages are not served on College premises. Pursuant to Section 6-15 of the Liquor Control Act (235 ILCS 5/6-15), the College shall regulate the delivery of alcoholic beverages in all College centers or conference facilities in connection with cultural, political or educational activities.

The Board authorizes and directs the President or designee to implement such regulations.

09.03.05 Alcohol and Drug Testing

Harper College reserves the right, within the limits of federal and state law, to examine and test for the presence of drugs and alcohol in the following situations:

1. **Pre-Employment Testing:** As a condition of employment, a drug screen will be required of all finalist candidates for any safety or security-sensitive positions. The College will develop guidelines for determining whether a position is a "safety or security-sensitive position." Finalist candidates for safety and security-sensitive positions shall be disqualified from employment with the College for refusal to submit to or failure to pass a required drug screen. Except as required by law, such a pre-employment drug test will not include testing for alcohol or cannabis.
2. **Post-Accident Testing:** An employee who is reasonably believed to have caused or contributed to an accident which resulted or reasonably could have resulted in death, bodily injury requiring immediate medical attention and/or significant property damage while the employee is on work time or on Harper College owned, leased, or used property, classrooms, or facilities may be required to be tested for alcohol, illegal drugs or other controlled substances.
3. **Suspicion-Based Testing:** The College may require an employee to be tested for alcohol, illegal drugs or other controlled substances when the College has reasonable suspicion to believe that the employee is using, impaired by or under the influence of drugs or alcohol while on College premises, while on call, or while working for the College. "Reasonable suspicion" may be based on direct observation of the employee, the employee's possession of drugs or alcohol, symptoms of being under the influence of drugs or alcohol, or other relevant factors.

09.05.00 CHRONIC OR OTHERWISE SUBSTANTIALLY HARMFUL
COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

09.05.01 Students

A student who has a chronic or otherwise substantially harmful communicable disease or who is a carrier of such a disease may attend the College and participate in programs and activities whenever, after reasonable accommodation, there is no significant risk of transmission of the disease to others.

A student who has a chronic or otherwise substantially harmful communicable disease or who is a carrier of such a disease may be denied admission to, or may be dismissed from, a particular program or course of study only when such disease has a direct effect on the student's ability to perform so as to render the student not qualified for the program or course of study, or when a requested accommodation would materially alter the course or program.

No other person who has a chronic or otherwise substantially harmful communicable disease or who is a carrier of such a disease shall be denied the use of College facilities or services whenever, after reasonable accommodation, there is no significant risk of transmission of the disease to others.

The President or designee shall establish rules and regulations that are designed to implement this policy consistent with state and federal laws including laws which protect the confidentiality of personal health information and medical records.

09.05.03 Employees

An employee with a chronic or otherwise substantially harmful communicable disease or who is a carrier of such a disease shall be permitted to retain their position whenever, after reasonable accommodation, there is no significant risk of transmission of the disease to others and provided the employee is able to perform the essential functions of the position. An employee who cannot perform the essential functions of the position or who still presents a substantial risk of transmission of the disease, even with a reasonable accommodation, shall remain subject to the Board's employment policies, including but not limited to sick leave, physical examinations, temporary and permanent disability and termination. The employee's medical records shall be kept confidential to the extent required by law and

maintained separately from their personnel file.

The President shall establish rules and regulations designed to implement this policy consistent with state and federal laws including laws which protect the confidentiality of personal health information and medical records.

09.07.00 PROTECTION OF PUBLIC AND OF HARPER COLLEGE PROPERTY

Harper College owns, controls, occupies and has invested substantial public resources in parcels of property in Cook County.

The College President or designee in consultation with the Harper College Police Department shall develop, maintain, and appropriately publicize safety and traffic regulations governing the use of College grounds, premises and facilities, as needed to provide for the welfare of members of the public and for the protection of College property.

09.09.00 POLICY ON USE OF TOBACCO AND CANNABIS PRODUCTS

The College strives to maintain a smoke/tobacco free environment consistent with its efforts to promote wellness and a campus environment conducive to work, study and other educational activities for students, employees and the public.

To this end, smoking (burning, inhaling, or exhaling) of any kind from a lighted pipe, joint, blunt, cigar, cigarette, hookah, weed, herbs, or any other lighted smoking equipment or electronic cigarette is prohibited in or on College premises, facilities or vehicles. Use of illegal tobacco or cannabis products is prohibited. Use of any tobacco or cannabis product is prohibited inside College owned, leased or rented facilities or vehicles. Improper disposal of tobacco-related or cannabis-related products on College premises is also prohibited. College premises include all land, buildings, facilities and other property owned, leased or rented by the College, whether on a short- or long-term basis. This includes parking lots, and outdoor athletic facilities and seating areas.

It is the policy of the College to comply with requirements of the Smoke Free Illinois Act (410 ILCS 82/1 et seq.) and the Smoke-Free Campus Act (110 ILCS 64/1 et seq.), as well as with Section 5 of the Right to Privacy in the Workplace Act (820 ILCS 55/5) prohibiting employment discrimination against an individual because that individual uses lawful products off the premises of the employer during nonworking and non-call hours without impairing the employee's ability to perform assigned duties.

09.11.00 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

The College strives to provide a safe educational and working environment in compliance with appropriate health and safety standards and legal requirements in order that Harper College students, employees and visitors may:

- A. Work under safe and healthful conditions, accounting for recognized hazards;
- B. Wear and use personal protective clothing and equipment; and
- C. Have basic, and when necessary, specific health and safety training.

The College shall develop, implement and administer a comprehensive safety and risk management program to address potential injury and loss.

Specific environmental health procedures and regulations shall be published in the Environmental Health and Safety Procedure Manual.

09.13.00 CAMPUS AND WORKPLACE VIOLENCE PREVENTION

The College is committed to maintaining an environment for its students and employees which is free from violence, threats of violence, aggression, intimidation, harassment and sexual harassment by other students and employees or by outside parties, including visitors to the College, and vendors with which the College does business.

Harper College prohibits the wearing, transporting, storage or presence of firearms or other dangerous weapons in its facilities or on its property except as provided under the Illinois Firearm Concealed Carry Act and this policy. Employees, students, and all others in possession of a firearm or other weapon except as provided under Illinois law within College facilities/property or while otherwise fulfilling job responsibilities may face disciplinary action, including termination. To the extent allowed by law, Harper College prohibits persons from carrying firearms or weapons in any of its facilities or on its property except as provided under the Illinois

Concealed Carry Act and this policy. This policy does not apply to any law enforcement personnel engaged in official duties.

Weapons or firearms are allowable under the following exceptions:

- The weapon or firearm is used in connection with a weapons safety course, weapons education course, military science or law enforcement training course offered by the College and/or approved and authorized by the College.
- The weapon or firearm is carried by a full-time law enforcement officer required to carry a weapon or firearm as a condition of their employment; the weapon or firearm is carried by an enforcement officer from an external agency conducting official business at the College; or for any other exception deemed necessary as determined by the Chief of the College Police.
- The weapon or firearm is used in connection with sanctioned classes, athletics, or recreational sports practices, games, matches, tournaments or events on Campus when the activity requires the use of such weapons or firearms (e.g., fencing, starter pistols and archery).

- The use of simulated weapons or firearms in connection with College-related theatrical productions.
- A weapon or firearm may be transported into an unrestricted parking area within a vehicle if the weapon or firearm and its ammunition remain locked in a case out of plain view within the parked vehicle as detailed in this Policy.

A person licensed to carry a concealed firearm must store a firearm or ammunition concealed in a case within a locked vehicle or locked container out of plain view within the vehicle in the parking area. For purposes of this subsection, "case" includes a glove compartment or console that completely encloses the concealed firearm or ammunition, the trunk of the vehicle, or a firearm carrying box, shipping box, or other container.

A licensee may exit a vehicle and carry a concealed firearm in the immediate area surrounding their vehicle within a permitted parking lot area only for the limited purpose of storing or retrieving a firearm within the vehicle's trunk, provided the licensee ensures the concealed firearm is unloaded prior to exiting the vehicle.

Additionally, concealed firearms shall not be allowed in parking lot number five (5) and/or parking lot number six (6) on the Harper College campus. Appropriate signage will be posted noting this restriction.

Acts of workplace violence will not be tolerated, and all reports of such incidents will be taken seriously and dealt with appropriately. Individuals who commit such acts may be removed from the premises and subject to disciplinary action, criminal penalties, or both.

All members of the campus community are encouraged to report conflicts that compromise the health and effectiveness of individual employees and or worksites before the conflicts become major problems.

Definitions

- The term "firearm" is defined as a loaded or unloaded handgun. A "handgun" is defined as any device which is designed to expel a projectile or projectiles by the action of an explosion, expansion of gas, or escape of gas that is designed to be held and fired by the use of a single hand.
- The term "weapon" is defined as:
 - Any device, whether loaded or unloaded, that shoots a bullet, pellet, flare or any other projectile including those powered by CO2. This includes, but is not limited to, machine guns, rifles, shotguns, handguns or other firearm, BB/pellet gun, spring gun, paint ball gun, flare gun, stun gun, taser or dart gun and any ammunition for any such device. Any replica of the foregoing is also prohibited.

- Any explosive device including, but not limited to, firecrackers and black powder.
- Any device that is designed or traditionally used to inflict harm including, but not limited to, bows and arrows, any knife with a blade longer than three inches, hunting knife, fixed blade knife, throwing knives and daggers.

09.15.00 CAMPUS SECURITY ENHANCEMENT ACT POLICY

It is the policy of the Board of Trustees to comply with the provisions of the Illinois Campus Security Enhancement Act of 2008 (the “Act”).

The [Harper College Police Department](#) shall be responsible to implement measures to comply with the Act, in cooperation with other College departments or divisions and with state and local emergency managers and responders, as needed or as required by the Act.

These measures shall be implemented consistently with the provisions of Policy No. 09.13.00 above (“Campus and Workplace Violence Prevention”), and shall include requiring criminal background investigations of individuals before they are employed by the College in security-sensitive positions; establishing and maintaining a community task force to coordinate with community leaders and service providers to prevent sexual assaults and facilitate a coordinated response to such assaults by law enforcement authorities and victim services providers; developing a National Incident Management System-compliant, all-hazards emergency response plan in partnership with major municipal emergency management officials; and developing an inter-disciplinary campus violence prevention plan.

09.17.00 ABUSED AND NEGLECTED CHILD REPORTING ACT

The College shall fully comply with the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act (“Act”) (325 ILCS 5/1 et seq.) and as such considers all employees mandated reporters. Thus, College employees must complete any initial or periodic mandated reporter training that is required by the Act, and employees who have reasonable cause to believe a child known to them in their professional or official capacity may be an abused child or a neglected child, shall immediately report or cause a report to be made to the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. Employees shall also cooperate in the investigation of such cases.

Procedures to implement this policy will be published through the Department of Human Resources and on its website.

09.18.00 UNATTENDED MINORS ON CAMPUS

The College recognizes that minors often accompany adults during visits to campus. It is the practice of Harper College to be respectful and supportive of the families and children of students, employees, and visitors. As an institution of higher education, the College provides educational and support services primarily to adult learners, although a

variety of activities, classes, and programs are offered to minors. The College is a public institution, available to its students as well as the general public who may wish to use its facilities, learn about its services and programs, or attend functions on the campus. The general public has the right to use the College's facilities and to visit the College during normal hours of operation.

In general, the College does not supervise minors outside of officially sanctioned programs and activities and neither the College nor its employees, agents, or students may accept responsibility to do so on behalf of the College, nor are non-enrolled minors allowed in the classroom or other student work areas. It is the position of the College that non-enrolled minors represent a potential disruption to the learning environment. The College accepts neither responsibility nor liability for accidents or injuries that may occur to a minor while on campus. Responsibility and liability lie completely with the minor's parent or responsible adult.

Minors shall not be routinely present at an employee's workplace or accompany a student to their classes (e.g. office, classroom, labs, etc.) in lieu of other childcare arrangements. Exceptions may be granted by the employee's supervisor or a faculty member on an emergency basis and for a specified period of time. The parent or accompanying adult is solely responsible for the minor.

Minors of the opposite gender of the accompanying parent or other adult are not allowed to enter the locker room for the gender of the parent or other adult, i.e., a female child accompanying a male adult is not allowed to enter the male locker rooms, etc.

Additionally, under the requirements of the Juvenile Court Act of 1987 (JCA) (705 ILCS 405/2-3(1)(d)-(e)), which addresses the responsibilities of supervision of a minor and their welfare; and, in concert with the Illinois Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act (ANCRA) (325 ILCS 5/4), which designates all Harper College employees (full-time; part-time; temporary; and student workers) as "mandated reporters" and, requires that if a "mandated reporter" has reasonable cause to believe that a minor known to them in their professional or official capacity is being abused or neglected, the "mandated reporter" must report to the Department of Child and Family Services (DCFS). A minor is defined as any child under the age of 18 years old for purposes of the JCS and ANCRA.

A minor is defined as any child under the age of 18 years old for purposes of the JCA and ANCRA. However, for purposes of all other provisions of this policy pertaining to unattended minors on campus, minors only include children under the age of 14.

No student, employee, or visitor to the College shall leave a minor unattended at the College, including outside of classrooms where a parent or accompanying adult is attending an activity at the college, in campus buildings, on campus grounds or in a vehicle.

Unattended children who are on campus without a parent or accompanying adult may be asked by Harper College Police to leave; may be referred to the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS); or may be referred to the local police, depending upon the circumstances (e.g. child's age, address, behavior, etc.).

09.19.00 AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

It is the policy of Harper College to comply with the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) (42 U.S.C. § 12101 *et seq.*) and pertinent federal implementing regulations, in all phases of the College's operations.

09.21.00 HEALTH INSURANCE PORTABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT (HIPAA) AND PRIVACY RULE

The College will comply with the Standards for Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health Information (Privacy Rule), promulgated under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), as and when applicable.

09.23.00 WORKERS COMPENSATION SETTLEMENTS

The President or President's designee is authorized to approve employee workers compensation settlement agreements of \$50,000 or less.

Workers compensation settlement agreements above \$50,000 shall be reviewed by the Board. The President will update the Board quarterly on all pending workers compensation cases and cases settled since the last update. The report shall include all costs associated with the claim, including legal, medical and the settlement amount.

09.24.00 WORKPLACE CONSENSUAL RELATIONSHIPS

Consensual relationships to which this policy applies are those romantic, intimate, or sexual relationships, where one of the parties has institutional responsibility for or authority over the other or is involved in evaluation of the other party, whether the other party is an employee or a student, or one party is a minor. Non-consensual relationships are covered under the College's policy on Sexual Harassment, and marital relationships under the Nepotism policy.

For purposes of this policy, the terms "Harper College," "employee," "person of influence," "faculty," "student," "consensual relationships" and "minor" are defined as follows:

- a) "Harper College" includes the College and any related entities, including Harper Professional Center and Learning and Career Center (LCC).
- b) "Employee": anyone employed by Harper College as full-time or part-time faculty, staff member, or professionals acting in an employment capacity (i.e. Auxiliary Services).

- c) "Person of Influence": anyone who oversees, directs or evaluates the work of others, including, but not limited to, managers, administrators, coaches, directors, deans, chairs, advisors, mentor, and faculty members in their roles as instructors and Person of Influence of student-employees or assistants, and as participants in decisions affecting the careers (tenure, promotion, etc.) of other faculty members.
- d) "Faculty": all those charged with academic instruction, including all ranks recognized as faculty by Harper College.
- e) "Students": all those enrolled full-time or part-time in any program of Harper College.
- f) "Minor": anyone who is under the age of 18.
- g) "Consensual relationships": intimate personal, dating, or sexual relationships voluntarily undertaken by the parties.
- h) "Intimate": A private and personal relationship that goes beyond a casual friendship and is sexual and/or romantic in nature.

An individual as defined in (B) through (D) above shall not exercise academic responsibility (instructional, evaluative or supervisory) for any student with whom the employee has a consensual relationship.

An individual as defined in (B) through (D) shall not conduct performance evaluations, or make salary decisions, decisions regarding promotion and tenure, or decisions on continuation of employment for a person with whom he or she has a consensual relationship.

Questions regarding this Policy or what options may be available for resolving issues arising under it may be referred to the Chief Human Resources Officer or the Provost.

If a faculty member, employee, or person of influence violates this Policy, they may be subject to discipline in accordance with provisions in the applicable collective bargaining agreement or policy/procedure manual.

Retaliation against persons who report concerns about consensual relationships is prohibited and constitutes a violation of this Policy.

09.25.00 HARPER COLLEGE HAZING POLICY

What is Hazing?

Harper College Hazing policy is based on the tenets of Illinois law. According to Illinois law, a person commits hazing by knowingly requiring another person in any educational institution to perform an act for the purpose of joining any organization connected with that institution, if such an act results in bodily harm to anyone.

Harper College defines hazing as any action taken or situation created, intentionally or unintentionally, whether on or off Harper premises and whether presented as optional or required, that a reasonable person could

experience as mental, physical, or emotional discomfort; servitude; degradation; embarrassment; harassment; or ridicule for the purpose of initiation into, affiliation with, or admission to, or as a condition for continued membership in a group, team, or other organization, regardless of an individual's willingness to participate. Acceptance of or consent to an activity on the part of a new member or individual does not justify an individual, organization, or group's sponsorship of the activity.

Penalties for Hazing

Under Illinois law (Illinois Hazing Act, 720 ILCS §5/12C50), the penalty for hazing is up to 364 days incarceration and up to a \$2,500.00 fine. Should hazing result in gross bodily harm or death, the penalty increases to 1 to 3 years imprisonment and up to a \$25,000.00 fine.

In Illinois, hazing is not a commonly charged offense. For conduct resulting in bodily harm or death, charges relating to battery or homicide are much more likely to be brought. These can, of course, have much more serious consequences.

Hazing activities can result in dismissal from Harper College. Criminal charges need not have been brought for the college to take action, as the disciplinary process is completely independent of the court system.

Examples of Hazing

Harper College has set forth some examples of hazing. They include, but are certainly not limited to, the following:

- alcohol use or other substances;
- strenuous physical activity,
- paddling or any type of physical abuse,
- excessive fatigue, sleep deprivation, or interference with scholastic activities,
- scavenger hunts,
- road trips,
- conspicuous apparel, humiliating activities such as verbal abuse, threats, and name calling.
- Servitude or placing another in a position of servitude and
- Removing, stealing, taking, or damaging public or private property

Failure of an individual in a leadership role or position of power to address and/or report an act of hazing committed against another individual may also be a violation of this policy.

Victim Resources:

If you have been the victim of hazing, you should call the Office of the Dean of Students. This is imperative if any physical trauma occurs as a result of hazing.

- Emergency: 911

- Non-emergency: 847.925.6330

Informational Links

- Police, non-emergency: 847.925.6330
- Police, Fire, Ambulance, EMERGENCY: 911
- [Office of the Dean of Students](#)

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11.01.00 ADMINISTRATIVE

11.01.01 [President](#)

The President is the chief executive officer of the College. The President derives his/her/their authority from and is directly responsible to the Board. It is the President's function to recommend policies requiring Board approval. Other functions are the implementation of Board policies and Board actions, and the authorization of administrative procedures and practices. The President also serves as chief representative of the College in the community.

In accordance with the Illinois Public Community College Act and the President's employment contract, the President executes directly or by delegation to members of his/her/their staff all executive and administrative duties necessary for the efficient operation of the College.

11.01.03 President's Evaluation

The Board shall, prior to the end of each fiscal year, evaluate the President in accordance with procedures and criteria established by the Board and the President.

11.01.05 Executive Cabinet

Those administrators reporting directly to the President are considered members of the Executive Cabinet management team and are responsible for administering all departments of the College.

11.01.07 Administrative Personnel

Administrators are employees whose responsibilities include:

- A. The authority to submit recommendations with regard to hiring, evaluating, disciplining, or terminating the employment of employees reporting to them;
- B. The authority to make significant decisions in their area of responsibility; and
- C. The supervision and direction of the work within their function area of responsibility, including responsibility for

the development and administration of their area's budget.

11.01.09 Terms of Employment

Administrative appointments are to specific positions and service in any such position is at the exclusive discretion of the Board upon recommendation of the President of the College.

In accordance with the Illinois Public Community College Act, administrators do not accrue tenure. However, a person from the faculty assigned to an administrative position shall not forfeit tenure or service credit accrued toward tenure, or the highest academic rank attained as a faculty member.

Administrators are issued an employment contract and the terms of the contract shall be in writing and provided to the administrators.

11.01.11 Duties and Responsibilities

The specific duties of administrators shall be defined in their respective job descriptions.

11.01.13 Academic/Administrative Rank

Academic/Administrative rank will be granted to administrators.

11.01.15 Administrative Classification

The administrative classification program sets forth salary levels and ranges for each administrative position and includes job descriptions for each position.

11.01.17 Employment Outside of the College

Administrators are not to be regularly employed for remuneration by other agencies during their contractual period of full-time service to the College except with the prior written approval of the President of the College.

11.01.19 Developmental Leave

The College may grant, upon recommendation of the President, a developmental leave to eligible administrators provided that in the judgment of the Board, such a leave will be of benefit to the College, and the individual's absence will not adversely affect either the budget or operational efficiency of the College.

11.01.21 Administrative Salary and Benefits Program

Annually, the President will recommend to the Board of Trustees any changes to pay and benefits for Administrators. Any changes will be reflected in the Administrative Employment Contract and the Administrator Benefits Program.

11.01.23 Early Retirement Program

An early retirement program may be made available to administrators. The conditions for eligibility and participation in the program will be part of the Administrative Employment Contract.

11.01.25 Termination

Reasons for termination of an administrator shall be part of the Administrative Employment Contract. The College reserves the right to determine on an annual basis whether or not to reappoint an administrator upon expiration of the employment contract term.

11.03.00 FACULTY

11.03.01 Full-Time Faculty

Full-time faculty members are employees with academic rank whose primary duties are the direct instruction and counseling of students, or whom have library service responsibilities connected with instruction.

Full-time faculty are faculty members who have a workload of 24 contact hours or more per academic year, or equivalent workload.

11.03.03 Terms of Employment and Qualifications

Faculty members must meet minimum qualifications for teaching at Harper College. A Statement of Teaching Credentials shall be prepared jointly by the administration and the Faculty Senate for the purpose of establishing minimum guidelines for teaching qualifications. The statement of teaching credentials is contained in the Statement of Faculty Credentials.

After recommendation of full-time faculty appointment by the College President, the Board of Trustees has final approval of all full-time faculty appointments.

Tenured faculty members are entitled to continued employment subject to provisions of the Illinois Public Community College Act and need not be given annual employment agreements, except as the College deems necessary or desirable in specific situations.

11.03.05 English Proficiency Requirement

The Board of Trustees declares its intention to comply with the statute (110 ILCS 805/3-29.2) which requires the College to establish a program to assess the English language proficiency of all persons providing classroom instruction to students, and to ensure that the English language is used in the instruction of students except those enrolled in foreign language courses. Procedures for the implementation of this program are published in the Faculty Handbook.

11.03.07 Duties and Responsibilities

The general duties and responsibilities of each faculty member are:

- A. To perform their duties consistent with applicable College policies, procedures, and practices;
- B. To represent the College professionally and creditably on all occasions;
- C. To continually improve his/her education and experience;

D. To devote his/her best efforts to the educational program of Harper College; and

E. To fulfill the terms of his/her contract.

11.03.09 Faculty Evaluation

Harper College is committed to the development of a superior faculty who aspire to high levels of excellence in instruction and service to the students, the College, the community, and their profession. Harper College shall, therefore, continuously and systematically assess and evaluate faculty members' performance and seek evidence of a faculty member's effectiveness in the attainment of excellence. In order to encourage such excellence and to provide criteria, standards, and procedures for evaluating faculty members' performance, a performance evaluation system is essential.

The faculty evaluation process is delineated in the Faculty Handbook.

11.03.11 Promotion

Final approval of full-time faculty promotions is made by the Board of Trustees in accordance with procedures in the Full-Time Faculty Collective Bargaining Agreement and the Faculty Handbook. The process and system for promotion in academic rank is based upon the recommendation of faculty and administrative staff to the President upon approval by the President, the promotion recommendation is forwarded to the Board of Trustees for final approval.

The procedures for promotion are listed on the Provost website.

11.03.13 Employment Outside of the College

No full-time faculty member employed by the College during the term stated in their contract shall undertake, contract for or accept anything of value in return for research or consulting services to any other parties (including agencies that have a professional relationship to the College) unless the faculty member (a) estimates time to be spent on such endeavor and requests and receives prior written approval of the President or designee; and (b) submits to the

President or designee an annual statement of the time spent on such endeavor. No faculty member employed by the College shall engage in any other regular business or employment for remuneration unless the faculty member secures the prior written approval of the President of the College or designee.

11.03.15 [Collective Bargaining Agreement](#)

Faculty members' salaries and other terms and conditions of employment agreed to between the Board of Trustees and the faculty members' exclusive bargaining representative are set forth in the Full-Time Faculty Collective Bargaining Agreement. Additional employment provisions and procedures are set forth in the Faculty Handbook.

11.03.17 Faculty Handbook

A Faculty Handbook containing pertinent information, procedures, rules and regulations will be provided to all full-time faculty.

11.03.19 Adjunct Faculty

Adjunct faculty are part-time faculty who have a workload of up to 24 contact hours or equivalent workload per academic year, i.e. fall and spring semesters.

Appointment as an adjunct faculty member is covered by a letter of intent. Adjunct faculty members' salaries and other terms and conditions of employment agreed to between the Board of Trustees and the adjunct faculty members' exclusive bargaining representative are set forth in the [Adjunct Faculty Collective Bargaining Agreement](#).

- A. Employment as an adjunct faculty member at Harper College shall not count toward completion of the probationary period for consideration of tenure.
- B. The appointment imposes no obligation on the College for renewal or reappointment of the adjunct faculty member or to specify cause for non-renewal or non-reappointment and does not create a right to full-time employment.

- C. Adjunct faculty members will be given a written notice of class assignment and the period of their appointment.

An Adjunct Faculty Handbook containing pertinent information, procedures, rules and regulations will be provided to all adjunct faculty members.

11.03.21 Professor Emeritus

A full-time Professor or Associate Professor or an administrator who holds either academic rank may apply for Professor Emeritus status upon retirement. Applicants must meet minimum years of service criteria and be able to demonstrate significant accomplishments as delineated in the application procedure and selection guidelines. Professor Emeritus status is recommended by the President and approved by the Board.

11.05.00 PROFESSIONAL-TECHNICAL EMPLOYEES

11.05.01 Definition

Professional-technical employees are employees in the job titles listed in the Agreement between the Board of Trustees and the Professional/Technical Union who are regularly employed 19 hours per week or more and 32 weeks per year or more.

11.05.03 Qualifications

A professional-technical employee must meet the minimum qualifications for a particular job as listed in the Position Description. The administration reserves the right to waive minimum qualifications if it will best serve the interests of the College. Such waiver shall be non-precedential.

11.05.05 Duties and Responsibilities

The duties and responsibilities of professional-technical employees are determined by the particular requirements of the position. These requirements shall be defined in the job descriptions provided by the Human Resources department. The Human Resources department and the appropriate supervisor shall be responsible for informing and orienting professional-technical employees regarding their job duties and responsibilities.

11.05.07 [Collective Bargaining Agreement](#)

Professional-technical employees' salaries and other terms and conditions of employment agreed to between the Board of Trustees and the professional-technical employees' exclusive bargaining representative are set forth in the Professional-Technical Employees' Collective Bargaining Agreement.

11.07.00 SUPERVISORY/MANAGEMENT EMPLOYEES

11.07.01 Definition

Supervisory/management employees are non-instructional personnel, excluding administrators, who perform mid-level management functions for the College.

11.07.03 Duties and Responsibilities

The duties and responsibilities of supervisory/management employees are determined by the particular requirements of the position. These requirements shall be defined in the job descriptions provided by the Human Resources department. The Human Resources department and the appropriate supervisor shall be responsible for informing and orienting supervisory/management employees regarding their job duties and responsibilities.

11.07.05 Terms of Employment and Qualifications

An employee must meet the minimum standards for a particular job classification. The administration reserves the right to waive minimum qualifications if it will best serve the interests of the College. Such waiver shall be non-precedential.

Introductory periods shall be established for all supervisory/management employees.

11.07.07 Supervisory/Management Employee Classification and Promotion

The supervisory/management employee classification program sets forth salary levels and ranges for each supervisory/management position and includes job descriptions for each position.

Promotion or transfer from one position to another shall be based on ability, performance, service, and the needs of the College.

11.07.09 Reclassification

Reclassification is granted based on findings and recommendations by appropriate administrative personnel and approval by the President.

11.07.13 Salary Program

The administration shall annually conduct a review of the salary program based on the needs of the College and the prevailing salaries in the local employment area.

Revisions to salary programs are approved by the Board of Trustees upon the recommendation of the President.

11.07.15 Reduction in Force

The Board of Trustees may approve an administrative recommendation for a reduction in force of supervisory/management employees in the event the Board determines that reduction in staff is necessary for cost savings purposes, program reduction, or other reasons. Reduction in force and layoff procedures shall be set forth in the [Supervisory/Management Handbook](#).

11.07.17 Termination

The procedure for termination of employment shall be delineated in the [Supervisory/Management Handbook](#).

11.07.19 [Supervisory/Management Employee Handbook](#)

Administrative practices and procedures which pertain to supervisory/management personnel during their employment at Harper College are contained in the Supervisory/Management Employee Handbook and the Administrative Services Procedures Manual.

11.09.00 CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES**11.09.01 Definition**

Classified employees are non-instructional personnel, excluding administrators, who perform support functions for the College.

11.09.03 Duties and Responsibilities

The duties and responsibilities of classified employees are determined by the particular requirements of the position. These requirements shall be defined in the job descriptions provided by the Human Resources department. The Human Resources department and the appropriate supervisor shall be responsible for informing and orienting classified employees regarding their job duties and responsibilities.

11.09.05 Terms of Employment and Qualifications

An employee must meet the minimum standards for a particular job classification. The administration reserves the right to waive minimum qualifications if it will best serve the interests of the College. Such waiver shall be non-precedential.

Introductory periods shall be established for all classified employees.

11.09.07 Classified Employee Classification and Promotion

The classified employee classification program sets forth salary levels and ranges for each classified position and includes job descriptions for each position.

Promotion or transfer from one position to another shall be based on ability, performance, service, and the needs of the College.

11.09.09 Reclassification

Reclassification is permitted based on findings and recommendations by appropriate administrative personnel and approval by the President.

11.09.13 Salary Program

The administration shall annually conduct a review of the salary program based on the needs of the College and the prevailing salaries in the local employment area.

Revisions to salary programs are approved by the Board of Trustees upon the recommendation of the President.

11.09.15 Reduction in Force

The Board of Trustees may approve an administrative recommendation for a reduction in force of classified employees in the event the Board determines that reduction in staff is necessary for cost savings purposes, program reduction, or other reasons.

11.09.17 Termination

The procedure for termination of employment shall be delineated in the Classified Employee Procedure Manual.

11.09.19 [Classified Employee Handbook](#)

Administrative practices and procedures which pertain to classified personnel during their employment at Harper College are contained in the Classified Employee Handbook.

11.11.00 CUSTODIAL/MAINTENANCE EMPLOYEES

11.11.01 Definition

Custodial/maintenance employees are employees whose job titles are listed in the Agreement between the Board of Trustees and the Harper 512 Association, IEA-NEA.

11.11.03 Duties and Responsibilities

The duties and responsibilities of custodial/maintenance employees are determined by the particular requirements of

the position. These requirements shall be defined in the job descriptions provided by the Human Resources department. The Human Resources department and the appropriate supervisor shall be responsible for informing and orienting service employees regarding their job duties and responsibilities.

11.11.05 Qualifications

A custodial/maintenance employee must meet the minimum qualifications for a particular job classification. The administration reserves the right to waive minimum qualifications if it will best serve the interest of the College. Such waiver shall be non-precedential.

11.11.07 [Collective Bargaining Agreement](#)

Custodial/maintenance employees' salaries and other terms and conditions of employment agreed to between the Board of Trustees and the custodial/maintenance employees' exclusive bargaining representative are set forth in the Custodial/Maintenance Employees' Collective Bargaining Agreement. Additional employment provisions and procedures are set forth in the Custodial/Maintenance Employees' Handbook.

11.13.00 POLICE OFFICERS AND COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICERS

11.13.01 Definition

Police officers and community service officers are employees whose job titles are listed in the Agreements between the Board of Trustees and the Illinois Council of Police.

11.13.03 Duties and Responsibilities

The duties and responsibilities of police officers and community service officers are determined by the particular requirements of the position. These requirements shall be defined in the job descriptions provided by the Human Resources department. The Human Resources department and the appropriate supervisor shall be responsible for informing and orienting police officers and community

service officers regarding their job duties and responsibilities.

11.13.05 Qualifications

A police officer and community service officer must meet the minimum qualifications for a particular job classification. The administration reserves the right to waive minimum qualifications if it will best serve the interest of the College. Such waiver shall be non-precedential.

11.13.07 [Collective Bargaining Agreements](#)

Police officers and community service officers' salaries and other terms and conditions of employment agreed to between the Board of Trustees and the police officers and community service officers' exclusive bargaining representatives are set forth in the collective bargaining agreements for police officers and community service officers.

11.15.00 GENERAL HUMAN RESOURCES POLICIES

11.15.01 Non-Discrimination

It is the intent of the Board of Trustees to comply with all applicable local, state, and federal statutes, regulations, and ordinances regarding non-discrimination in employment, including hiring of employees and provision of employee benefits.

11.15.02 Recruitment and Hiring

The College is committed to cultivating a community of talented employees from diverse backgrounds who contribute to fulfilling our mission, vision, philosophy and core values. The Board will regularly monitor progress towards increasing the representation of individuals from historically underrepresented populations, at all levels of the institution. The Board directs the College to implement intentional policies and procedures that help identify and mitigate bias and discrimination throughout the hiring process. The College strives for its overall composition of faculty and staff to better represent the diversity of our students and district.

11.15.03 Insurance Benefits

The College desires to provide a program of insurance coverage for eligible employees. (The term "eligible" is defined in accordance with the respective employee's position.) The Board of Trustees reserves the right to modify

or change insurance benefits or coverage as necessary or appropriate based upon budgetary or cost considerations or other factors, consistent with any applicable limitations in collective bargaining agreements covering the College's eligible employees.

Specific insurance coverage and benefits provisions are contained in benefit plan documents.

11.15.05 Vacation

The College shall provide paid vacation leave from assigned College duties for eligible employees. Eligibility criteria and procedural requirements for approval of this benefit are contained in employee contracts and pertinent handbooks, procedure manuals or benefit plan documents.

11.15.07 Leaves of Absence

The Board of Trustees may provide employees with a program of leaves of absence from assigned College duties as described in applicable employee handbooks and contracts.

11.15.09 Fringe Benefits

A program of fringe benefits shall be made available to eligible employees. Eligibility criteria and procedural requirements for approval of such benefits are contained in employee contracts and pertinent handbooks, procedure manuals or benefit plan documents.

11.15.11 Tuition Waiver

A tuition waiver program shall be made available to eligible employees. Eligibility criteria for the program are contained in employee contracts and pertinent handbooks and procedure manuals.

The participation of the employee, spouse, or child in any course shall not permit such course to be conducted if it would otherwise be terminated for lack of sufficient enrollment. Tuition-free enrollment limits may be placed on selected courses.

11.15.13 Tax Sheltered Annuities and Deferred Compensation Plan

Salary reductions for tax-sheltered annuities shall be available to all eligible employees. The plans are administered in accordance with IRC Sections 403(b) and 457(b). The College does not act as a financial advisor and shall not be responsible or liable for any financial losses or other decline in the value of any investments employees acquire under these tax-sheltered annuity plans.

11.15.15 Retirement

Harper College participates in the State Universities Retirement System (SURS). Eligible employees can apply for SURS retirement benefits in accordance with SURS requirements and procedures. Provisions of the plan are available through SURS.

11.15.17 Access to Personnel Records

The Board of Trustees shall comply with the Illinois Personnel Records Review Act. Employee personnel files and records shall be subject to review, inspection, and disclosure as provided in the Act and any applicable collective bargaining agreement.

11.15.19 Employee Background Checks

The College shall comply with the provisions of the Illinois Campus Security Enhancement Act of 2008. The College shall require criminal background investigations prior to the employment of regular full-time and part-time employees and other employees as determined by the College. Each applicant for regular full-time or part-time employment shall authorize the College to initiate a criminal background investigation as a pre-condition of employment.

11.15.21 Family and Medical Leave Policy

The College shall comply with the provisions of the federal Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 and FMLA Rules and Regulations.

11.15.23 School Visitation Rights Policy

The College shall comply with the provisions of the School Visitation Rights Act and any applicable regulations.

11.15.25 Appointment of Administrators and Faculty

The Board shall appoint the President, other administrative personnel, and faculty in accordance with its statutory obligations under Section 3-26 of the Illinois Public Community College Act (110 ILCS 805/3-26).

11.15.27 Incentive Compensation

The College supports the concept of incentive compensation for employees when deemed appropriate by the President. Incentive compensation shall be governed by written plan(s) approved by the President. The recommendations for incentive compensation will be presented to the Board of Trustees before payment.

11.15.29 Evaluation

Harper College is committed to the development of an employee's abilities, potential, and well-being as a productive member of the organization. The College will evaluate regular employees at least annually to assess their performance and to assist in their growth and development. Applicable evaluation criteria and procedures are available in the Human Resources office.

11.15.31 Remote Telework Policy

Harper College may provide remote work arrangements in appropriate circumstances. Remote work, in which employees complete their job-related duties from an off-campus location, may be required in emergency situations to allow for continuity of operations or on a voluntary basis when deemed appropriate. Remote work is at the discretion of the immediate supervisor and the Office of Human Resources. Procedures to facilitate remote work arrangements can be found in the Administrative Services Procedure Manual.

11.15.33 Accommodations for Religious Observances

It is the policy of Harper College to reasonably accommodate individual students' religious observances in accordance with the University Religious Observances Act (110 ILCS 110/0.01 et seq.), in regard to admissions, class attendance, and the scheduling of examinations and work requirements. Students faced with schedule conflicts related to religious observance should make prior arrangements with the instructor five school days* in advance of the examination or other activity involved. A student who believes that they have been unreasonably denied an educational benefit due to their religious beliefs or

practices may appeal the decision in accordance with the College's Student Academic and Non-Academic Complaint Procedures.

* School days are defined as those weekdays (Monday through Friday) when classes are in session.

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13.01.00 HARPER COLLEGE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

The [Harper College Educational Foundation](#) was established in 1973 as a non-profit organization to provide additional funding for the College. Its members are appointed by the Foundation Board of Directors. The Harper College Educational Foundation is a legal entity separate and distinct from the College. The Foundation works within the framework of goals provided by the elected Board of Trustees, which provides coordinating services for the Foundation.

A. Purpose

The purpose of the Foundation is to support the educational mission of the College, as summarized below and set forth in more detail in the “Amended and Restated Memorandum of Agreement between the Board of Trustees of William Rainey Harper College and the William Rainey Harper College Educational Foundation”, which Memorandum of Agreement shall periodically be reviewed and reaffirmed and/or revised by the parties...

1. Assist the College in providing broader educational opportunities for students, alumni, district residents, and employers;
2. Acquire and administer additional assets for the College;
3. Encourage corporations, foundations, and individuals to provide gifts, scholarships, grants, or bequests of money or property;
4. Foster development of special instruction, research, and cultural programs which cannot be funded through the operating budget of the College; and
5. Act in a fiduciary capacity to carry out any of the foregoing purposes.

B. Fund Raising Activities

The William Rainey Harper College Educational Foundation was established as a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation to receive all gifts (cash, real property, stocks, bonds, bequests, and in-kind donations) to the College. All fund raising activities are directed, sanctioned, and approved through the Foundation Board of Directors in accordance with its Bylaws and procedures, and are coordinated with the College President in accordance with the College’s needs.

C. Gifts to the College

All gifts to the College must be accepted by and accounted for through the Educational Foundation, including those gifts designated by the donor(s) for a specific project, program, department or division.

Exceptions to the requirements in Paragraphs B. and C. above may be made for on-campus fund raising activities of student clubs and organizations, with prior approval of the Office of Student Activities.

D. Naming Harper College Facilities and Programs

1. Goals and Philosophy

William Rainey Harper College and the Educational Foundation may recognize, honor, or memorialize individuals, corporations, foundations, or other organizations for their contributions to the College, to higher education, or to society by naming physical or non-physical assets in their honor. Examples of such assets included but are not limited to:

- Physical Assets: rooms, labs, buildings, floor or wings of a building, patios and outdoor gathering spaces; and,
- Non-physical Assets: scholarships, academic programs/units, chairs, and lecture series.

The naming of College facilities and programs is solely within the discretion of the governing boards of the College and the Foundation. A donor shall not have any right, title or interest in said facility or program, the naming thereof or the duration of said name. The naming of facilities and programs in recognition of donors shall be determined on the basis of the facts in each case and in accordance with the Educational Foundation guidelines for gift acceptance and stewardship.

These contributions may include time and talent devoted by dedicated community members, distinguished service on the part of staff or significant financial commitments made by a college supporter.

Harper College will consider the following two general categories of naming opportunities:

Philanthropic Naming – Consideration for naming of a building, part of a building, classroom, property, or other non-physical asset may be given in recognition of substantial financial gifts to the Harper College Educational Foundation. The Foundation will seek financial contributions commensurate with the honor sought and compatible with the mission of the institution. The Foundation will make recommendations based on the gift levels and the identified spaces associated within the Gift Acceptance Policy of the Foundation. There may be spaces which are excluded from naming opportunities based on the purpose, or designation as an identity-based center/space. These spaces will be communicated annually to the Foundation to omit them from naming opportunities that recognize donors.

Honorary Naming – Harper College considers the naming of a building, part of a building or other property in honor of an individual to be one of the highest recognitions the institution can bestow. In that context, only in rare circumstances will property be named to memorialize or honor individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to Harper College. Persons considered for naming honors shall have been dedicated to the purpose, nature and mission of the institution and have achieved outstanding distinction through civic, intellectual or artistic contributions to the development of the institution, area, state and/or nation. Responsibility for the naming of a building in honor of an individual rests solely with the purview of the Board of Trustees, upon the recommendation of the President.

2. The following restrictions shall apply to the two categories:

- Persons holding elective or appointed offices in national, state or local government or educational bodies, including employees of Harper College, may not be honored during the term of office or employment.
- Current members or employees of any governing body in the State of Illinois, including the Illinois Board of Higher Education or Illinois Community College Board are not eligible.

The College reserves the right to rescind recognition if the Board of Trustees determines that the recognized benefactor is no longer in alignment with the College's mission and fundamental values, or due to a change in status or reputation of the benefactor. It is within the sole discretion of the Board of Trustees to determine if continued recognition is warranted.

Furthermore, the College reserves the right to demolish, retrofit, add to or maintain the named areas as programming needs evolve. If an area is demolished or significantly modified, the College will make every attempt to represent the donor in other appropriate venues on campus.

The naming of all College facilities and programs is subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees.